

The Arrowhead

West Michigan Chapter



July 2020

Chief's Chatter

Doug Troost-WMPOCI President

Hello All! Summer has arrived. Joan and I have had our cars out some. Hope the rest of you have too. I trust everyone is in good health and better spirits as Michigan is slowly moving to re-open and as the U.S. is going through troubling times. Things are changing a lot. Although we don't like it, we'll get through it.

This is not a normal summer, with fewer car shows. With almost everything canceled early on, I have seen some car show dates starting to appear, dates and times have changed, but at least a few are out there. Social media is the one means for advertising these shows, so check it out and see what you can find. We saw one up north this past Saturday as we were riding up to see a garage find for a friend. 1968 convertible Impala, in nice condition, my friend loved it and bought it.

Things have come together for our July Cruise. With POCI Cancelled we thought we should do something. So here's what we have. Save this Date: **July 14, 2020., meet at 5:30pm at the Zeeland MacDonald's parking lot.** We will be traveling to South Haven to Vander Zee's Motors. Ray Vander Zee will be talking about growing up in a family who owned a Pontiac Dealership. We will be meeting in either the Library of Three Blondes brewery (owned by his daughters) or on their outside patio depending how many people we have. Sherman's Ice Cream is also across the street. If you plan to attend please email my wife at joantr@chartermi.net or send a text to 616 550 6283. Three Blondes brewery would like to know approximately how many are coming.

Our car show at Elhart is still up in the air. As a club we feel it's ok to move forward, the final word will come from The Elhart Group, at this point we have not received a decision from them. Right now being flexible seems the best option.

So gas those Pontiacs up, check the oil, we are going to do our best to get you out on some road trips.

Doug

MEMBER'S SHARE

I have always liked cars and was interested in how the engines worked.

My first car was a 1965 Rambler Marlin, 327, 3 speed with overdrive, disc brakes, Posi-traction, dual exhaust, white with red interior. I purchased it in 1968 and paid \$1300. The Zeeland Police didn't like my car because it was too loud but I thought it was just right.

The next vehicle was a 1967 Chevrolet Malibu, 289, 3 speed automatic, with super sport options, plum with black convertible top. We drove away on our honeymoon in this vehicle and had it for several years.

I always liked GTO's but my dad said "no". It was the styling of the 1967 Chevrolet but the dash of the Pontiacs that I liked. I learned at some point that the Canadian Beaumont was made this way but I wasn't likely to find one of those around here.

Before we had our first baby, we purchased a 1969 Dodge Charger, white with a green vinyl top and green interior. It was a nice car and went fast. In the early 1970's when gas was getting more expensive and harder to get sometimes, it was no longer affordable for us.

So then we purchased a Plymouth Duster, 318, 3 speed stick on the floor which was more economical. This one was green, too.

We finally started buying Pontiacs in 1995. We had a beautiful white Bonneville for a year. We won a trophy for it at the POCl Convention in New Hampshire.

I found the 1967 Pontiac LeMans from an ad in the newspaper. It was an Oklahoma car so it was pretty rust free. It was Cameo White with a black vinyl top and black interior. The engine was burning oil and left a smoke cloud behind us. The first four lobes of the cam were round and the push rods were laying in the motor so I had the engine rebuilt. I replaced bushings and tie rods and rebuilt the front suspension. I took the transmission apart and cleaned it up. The trunk was rusted through from wet rubber backed shag carpet being in it so I replaced that. The body needed some work so I began trying to do that but found more Bondo than I expected. My son, Ben, had learned auto body and worked in a shop so he helped me a lot with that. I learned about Ted Walker as a self-employed painter and he agreed to finish the body work. Another shop in Hamilton did the headliner and vinyl top. Soon after we had moved into our new house in early Spring 1998, Ted brought the car back all painted with the Candlelight Cream. I put the chrome back on and changed the wheels to Rally 2's with PMD center caps.

John Baumann told me about the Pontiac club soon after I purchased the car. Herb Howes helped me get the correct rear axle. We attended our first meeting at the Pizza Hut on East 28th Street. The first car show we brought it to was at the Pfeiffer Dealership. We also took it to a show we had at Orson E Coe before it was painted.

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Monthly meeting Minutes

June 2, 2020 Meeting Report

First off, the club would like to thank Ron and Elaine VanZytveld for hosting the meeting at their family "cave". The weather was warm and sunny outside, but we were nice and cool inside! I did a quick count early on, and there were at least 24 members present. Not bad considering we were still in the Covid 19 lockdown. Everyone is eager to get out and about.

President Doug Troost kicked off the meeting by introducing our newest member, Rich. (I didn't get his last name.) He and his wife are from Kalamazoo. They own a 2009 Pontiac G8 GT! Rich's dad worked for GM Truck in Pontiac, MI. The VanZytvelds met Rick and his wife out in AZ last winter at the RV park they both stay at! What a small world! Over the winter and spring, some members didn't re-up, so we need to try harder to recruit new members.

Ryan Snyder passed out the new club address books. Thanks to Ryan and Catie for their hard work getting these put together for all the members.

Looks like the Covid 19 pandemic has caused the cancelation of almost all the summer auto-related activities. POCI has canceled its national convention, so now all our members will be home and able to participate in our July Ice Cream Cruise. Doug is still working out the details and should be listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

So far, our August Car Show at the Elhart Campus is still on. But its fate rests in the Elhart's hands.

We should be able to have our September Ottawa Beach Picnic. And the Pure Stock Drags are still on the calendar.

Hopefully, we will be able to have Glen Davis show us his John DeLorean movie for the October meeting.

Keep your fingers crossed that we can have our Christmas Party in December.

Now for some good news. The 50/50 drawing was won by Ryan Snyder! The Millers won the attendance drawing! Congrats guys!

Brian Martinie gave us his Treasurer's Report. There was no income. We had expenditures last month for the Dust-Off Cruise food, and newsletter expenses.

Our Guest Speaker was our own Scott Van Tamelen. Scott is an insurance agent for State Farm. He explained to us the upcoming July changes to the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Fund, which has been an added expense to our auto insurance bills since the early 70's! Starting July 2nd, we will no longer be mandated to pay for unlimited medical. You can keep it, or you can choose \$500K, \$250K, \$50K, or opt out entirely in some cases. Any way you look at it, you should see a reduction in your auto insurance premium.

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MEETING MINUTES CONT:

Scott highly recommends that you talk with your insurance agent to see what choice works best for you and your family. Thanks for the very informative talk Scott!

I hope to see as many of you at our July Ice Cream Cruise.
Dan Jensen

MEMBER SHARE CONT.

When we went to the POCI Convention in Gettysburg last year it was the first time we had shown this car. But the day before we left for that convention Judy's brother, our family mechanic, discovered that the bearing had seized to the axle. A quick call to Herb Howes resulted in finding what I needed so I had to drive up to him and get it so we could get the car fixed at the last minute.

We have enjoyed being part of the many events, trips, cruises over the approximate 25 years we have been members. I was President once and have worked on the annual car show for many years and now Judy has been the Newsletter Editor for several years. We were on the committee when we hosted the National Convention in 2000. We are thankful for the many friendships we have made.

Cary Hirdes

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, July 14, 5:30 PM

Meet at the Zeeland McDonald's

**We will cruise to South Haven to
hear Ray Vander Zee tell about growing up in a
Pontiac Dealership.**

A visit to Sherman's Ice Cream afterwards.



2020 CLUB EVENTS

- July 14 Cruise to South Haven & Ice Cream
August 4 Regular Meeting—Plan for Car Show
August 14 Car Show at Elhart Automotive in Holland
September 7 Picnic at Holland State Park
October 9 Fall Cruise—Charlevoix/Petoskey
November 3 Valve Cover Races, Election of officers
December Christmas Dinner—Beechwood Inn, Holland
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AREA EVENTS

- Saturday, July 4** Independence Day Mini Cruise 10 am
Meet at 7624 Lake Michigan Dr., Allendale
Cruise Lake Michigan Dr. between 48th & 68th Ave.
- Saturday, July 18** Veterans Park Memorial Car Show
223 E. 5th Ave., Reed City 10 am—3 pm
- Saturday, July 25** Gun Lake Casino, Wayland
Proceeds to Veterans, AutoBody Experts
- Sunday, August 2** Noon—4 Rock & Drift
Don Miguel Restaurant, 1011 136th Ave., Holland
- Sept 6 - 8 -** FRANKENMUTH AUTO FEST
- 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.

CRUISE INS

*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)*

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
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