

WINTER 2014 NEWSLETTER

The Original *Pontiaction* Chapter...

The **Keystone State Chapter** **Pontiac Oakland Club International**



Founded 1975; LONGEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING CHAPTER



See the great write up on this
beautiful car inside



A little help please



FROM THE CHIEF

From Jim Martin

BURRRRRRRRR!!! It sure is cold but things are heating up for our 2014 season. Congratulations to all of our Keystone –POCI members for a grand year of activities in 2013. As we closed last year at the Christmas party, we sat around discussing our 2013 activities and it became even more evident to Elke and me that we are so blessed to have such great friends. We appreciate how so many are willing to step forward to organize, promote, and lead to insure that everyone has a good time enjoying our hobby. To all of the officers, thank you for the support and to those members who take extra special effort coordinating the many activities... Thanks; 2013 was a very good year!

The January membership/board meeting was extremely well attended and, despite our full agenda, we succeeded in accomplishing everything planned. We had 22 members present and each contributed immensely to what appears to be another fun filled year. Dick will include a summary of the meeting somewhere in our newsletter but there are several highlights I would like to discuss here. With the demise of Pontiac Motors, our club no longer has the support from General Motors that we once enjoyed. This, as well as an aging membership, is contributing to slow growth in membership and a slowing of interest in Oakland's and Pontiacs as a hobby. We have decided to limit our contributions/donations to only those activities that support our club hobby. To that end, we are asking the members to consider the National POCI's call to support the Oakland Pontiac Museum. National suggests that if each member contributes a small dollar amount that will insure that the museum continues to prosper. We are asking our membership to forward donations to our club treasurer who will in turn send the accumulated donations to museum on behalf of the Keystone membership. Of course, it is your choice but encourage everyone to consider supporting this valuable treasure.

Finally, we can be proud of Mike Murray, one of our members from Delaware. Mike has decided to run for a position on the National Board of Directors. I encourage each member of the chapter to consider supporting his quest. It will be extremely valuable for us to have a member representing and supporting the Keystone and Delmarva area. Good Luck Mike!

We will see you in March. Be safe and enjoy the rest of the winter!
Jim



I attended the Mecum/Indianapolis Auction back in May 2013, while on a weeklong business trip and fell in love with my future '59 Pontiac. I had been looking for a large late fifties-early sixties convertible and this one really caught my eye. I really had no intention of bidding on anything at this auction. I had no pre-bank certification; I didn't even have my checkbook, but I registered as a bidder and won the bid. The Mecum people were great to work with. I week later the car showed up at my house, compliments of Reliable Auto Movers.

The car is unrestored with original paint. People really can't believe it has the original lacquer finish from 1959 as it looks so bright. They certainly don't make paint like that anymore (it would be considered an environmental hazard today). The red interior is original except for the carpet. I was told by the previous owner that he took the car to a carpet specialist and instead of cleaning the carpet, he replaced it! Needless to say, the owner was pretty upset. It's hard to say what that mistake did to the car's value. The only other item to not come out of Pontiac, MI is the white convertible top.

The car has 45,000 miles on the odometer and I have no reason to believe that is not correct. The engine and engine compartment was detailed and painted 20 years ago and other than some minor discoloration on the intake manifold, presents itself as factory fresh. I believe '59 was the first year for the legendary 389 V-8. The motor starts reliably, even in cold weather and runs like new. The entire drivetrain is rock solid. I tend to baby the car, but I am amazed at how smooth the downshifts are and how capably the car accelerates and gets up to speed. It has the basic 2-barrel carb. At highway speeds the car can cruise all day (the farthest I have driven it was out to Carlisle for the GM show). The tires are perhaps the second set of bias ply. If I drove the car more I would seriously consider some new radials as you can definitely feel the "side rocking" of the skinny bias ply tires.

There is one quirk in the electrical system that I am looking to fix. Neither the rear turn signals nor the rear brake lights will work unless they are operated together! I have been told everything from the turn signal switch in the column is bad, or that there is a short in the system. I am looking for any help/recommendations here.

The car's history is very interesting. The original owner was an American diplomat living in Ohio where he purchased the car. Shortly thereafter, he was deployed to Cuba as a diplomat, presumably before the Castro takeover. Luckily, perhaps because of the owner's status, the car was not confiscated by the Communist government! He somehow got the car back to the States. As a memento of its Cuba vacation, the car still sports its "Republic de Cuba" registration sticker in the windshield.

Today, the car has a much more peaceful lifestyle, enjoying its time in my garage and at local car shows.



2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

**YOUR BEST SOURCE OF THE LATEST INFO IS THE CLUB WEBSITE—
www.ksepoci.org**

March 22 (Sat.): Oaks, PA (north of Valley Forge); Lunch/Meet at Bob Evans @ 11:30 then American Treasures Collection; contact Bill McIntosh at mcamci@msn.com

April 12 (Sat.): JWR Collection in Frackville, Lunch, Jerry's Museum in Pottsville—details to follow

May 4 (Sun.): GM on Display at Macungie, PA; Contact Don Haley at 610-640-7464; download the registration form at www.ksepoci.org on the Current Events page

June 14 (Sat.) Performance Years ALL Pontiac Show and GTOAA Eastern Regional Meet in Lansdale, PA; Contact Dick Stover at 215-752-7850 and register at <http://performanceyears.com/openhouse.asp>

June 17-21: POCI National Convention at Wichita, KS. See the POCI web site: www.poci.org

July 1-5: GTOAA national meet, Monroeville, PA (Pittsburgh area), see www.gtoaa.org

July 19 (Sat.): Trip to Williamsport, PA to see Ralph Keller's trains, then the mid-year board meeting and lunch at Country Cupboard, and possible river cruise. Consider staying overnight. Contact Ralph Keller at 570-326-9237 or rkeller@chilitech.net

Aug 1, 2, & 3: Das Awkscht Fescht at Macungie, PA; club day is Sunday Aug. 3; Contact Don Haley at 610-640-7464 or chief.pontiac1@aol.com or <http://www.awkscht.com>. **NOTE: you must register by July 1**

Aug 16 (Sat.): *Rain date 8/23*, Susquehanna Valley GTO and Jones Family Dealerships ALL Pontiac show at Amos Herr Park, Harrisburg Pike and Nissley Rd., Landisville, PA. Register at www.svgto.com

Sept. 4-6 (Thurs-Sat): Canandagua, NY (south of Rochester), Early Times Chapter of POCI (26-54) Flat Head Reunion: www.earlytimeschapter.org

Sept 6 (Sat.): Smyrna, DE; Willis Auto Mall, DelMarVa chapter of POCI fall meet—open to all makes of cars www.delmarvapoci.com

Sept 28 (Sun.): Fall meet at AW Golden's FasTrack Car Care Center; north side of Reading, PA; 1/4 mile north on HY61 from HY 12; contact Frank Kemp at 610-367-6664 or fkemp@dejazzd.com Register at <http://www.pontiacfallmeet.com/index.htm>

Oct 25 (Sat.) Strasburg Railroad and RR Museum, details to follow

Nov 28 (Fri. after Thanksgiving) Junkyard tour TBD

Dec 6 (Sat.): Christmas Party, Bird-In-Hand Family Restaurant, east of Bird-In-Hand and the underpass on HY 340. 12:30-4pm, \$25/person, \$10 for 12 & under; contact Jim Martin at 717-393-3031

Jan 18, 2015 (Sun.): Board and Membership Meeting, 1pm, Bird-in-Hand Fire Co. just west of the underpass on HY 340; contact Jim Martin at 717-393-3031

Annual Junk Yard Tour – 2013

By Bill McIntosh

The day after Thanksgiving, black Friday, was sunny, crisp and cold. It was shaping up to be a great day for a junk yard tour. The yard we were going to visit was Klinger's Yard in Pine Grove. As I headed toward Pine Grove, I was looking forward to seeing many members of the Club as the last official event I was able to attend was the Annual Fall Meet at the A. W. Golden facility in Reading.

Arriving at the Red Lion Inn, the designated breakfast spot, the parking lot seemed pretty empty. I headed inside and found the Club table and to my surprise only four people and one youngster. Don Barlup was with his grandson and Merle Wright had brought along two of his friends; all apparently riding in Don's car. I sat down, ordered breakfast and started chatting with those at table. I was wondering if the Klinger's destination had kept many away as we had visited this yard a couple of years ago. As we ate our breakfast another member came in with his son, a sign that more would be coming?

After finishing breakfast, we all decided to head out to the yard despite our small numbers. While paying our bill, who should arrive but Steve Liebert and Ed Loos. They admitted to having made at least two wrong turns making their arrival quite late. As in previous years, Steve was accompanied by three of his "Mopar friends" who were looking enthusiastic about getting to the yard. Steve and Ed decided to have breakfast before coming to the yard and the rest of us saddled up and headed out.

When arriving, the owner gave us his usual warm welcome and offered to show us around to any specific vehicles we might be looking for. I snapped a picture of those that were there at the time but it did not include Steve, Ed, Ralph Keller and any of the other stragglers. Despite all, everyone enjoyed the adventure and can recommend it highly to those who do not/have not participated. At the end of the day, it is an opportunity to look at marvelous cars that once were someone's baby and, maybe, to find a part or two you're looking for. The best part is the comradery and enjoying the company of fellow Club members.





The 2013 Keystone-POCI Christmas party was a rousing success. We had 29 members sign up, however only 27 attended as two of our members from Delmarva were unable to attend. The Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant and Inn provided a warm and cozy banquet room for everyone to relax and enjoy each other's company. As is always the case when car buffs get together, there was a lot of reminiscing about cars from the bygone era, cars we had (and should have kept), cars we have, and cars we wish we had. Many of us exchanged pleasantries about our many family events and experiences of the year. Our banquet director served a wonderful traditional Pennsylvania Dutch Christmas Feast. No one went away hungry. As in may of the past years, we enjoyed the music selections from our DJ, Lenny and the Groove Machine. Lenny also prepared an hour presentation of several videos that documented the reconstruction of several great Pontiacs. He always succeeds in helping keep the party interesting. And then of course, Santa did not make an appearance, however he did send goodies for everyone via one of his elves. Elke and I always enjoy hosting the Christmas Party and this year proved again to be special.

Jim Martin



TIME TO RENEW

KEYSTONE STATE CHAPTER P.O.C.I. DUES FOR THE 2014 YEAR ARE DUE

DUES ARE \$15.00 PER YEAR

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: Keystone State Chapter POCI

SEND TO: Rick Harding, 314 Reinholds Road, Denver PA 17517

We are also are in need of club members to help with club events.

2014 dues

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE: (_____) _____ - _____

Please list an email address if you have one so that you can be kept up to date with Club news.

EMAIL: _____ <<PLEASE>>

MY P.O.C.I. NUMBER IS : _____

**NOTE: It is recommended (but not required) that you be a member of the P.O.C.I.
in order to be a member of the Keystone State Chapter.**

PONTIAC/OAKLAND/GMC VEHICLES OWNED:

MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

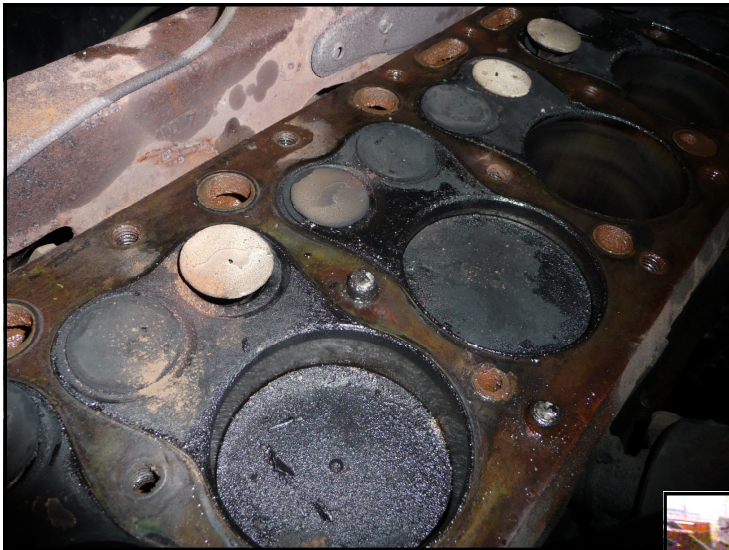
MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

MAKE_____ **MODEL**_____ **YEAR**_____

Odds and Ends



Return Address:
 Richard Stover
 262 Watergate Dr.
 Langhorne, PA 19053

Postage

T

Mailing Label

2013 and 2014 Officers and Directors:

President: Jim Martin
 Vice President: Bill McIntosh
 Treasurer: Rick Harding
 Secretary: Dick Stover
 Director: Merle Wright
 Director: Frank Kemp
 Director: Jim Beck
 Director: Brenda Steinhauer
 Co-Activities Director: Ralph Keller
 Co-Activities Director: Don Haley
 Newsletter Editor: Dick Stover
 Chapter Historian: Ralph Keller
 Promotional Sales: Bill McIntosh
 Display Board: Marlin Guigley

Keystone State Chapter Membership Information

For general information, contact Richard Stover at
kscpociinfo@gmail.com

Annual Chapter dues are \$15.00 payable in **January, 2014.**

It is recommended that you be a member of the P.O.C.I.
 along with being a member of the Keystone State Chapter.

Send dues payable to KSC-POCI, c/o Rick Harding;
 314 Reinholds Rd.; Denver, PA 17517

For Pontiac-Oakland Club International information
 write: POCI; P.O. Box 68 ; Maple Plain, MN 55359 ; or
 call: 877-368-3454; email: pociworldhq@aol.com

Annual POCI dues are \$35.00 and include a monthly magazine.

Check out our web site: www.kscpoci.org