

DECEMBER 2025-JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

The Original *Pontiaction* Chapter...

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



Founded September 9, 1974; LONGEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING CHAPTER

CELEBRATING 52 YEARS IN 2026



Three Classics getting ready for winter: The shop owner's '49 Nash (unibody with 8,000 welds), KSC Newsletter Editor's '48 Streamliner, and a customer's '89 Mercedes.

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From the Chief

FLOW THE CHIEF

Hello, Fellow Members; I was driving the other day on a rainy cool day thinking about the year. My first thought was just how fast the year went by and that we are about to close another year. I then started to look back on our club and the year we finished. We will once again close out the year with two strong events--our annual (my favorite event) Junk Yard Tour followed by our Christmas party. Year after year Steve Liebert chooses and makes the Junk Yard tour one terrific event. I hope you were able to join us this year. Then we have our annual Christmas Party, which is always one of our most popular events. I'm very excited that we will be back at Bird-in-Hand Restaurant. They have rebuilt after their devastating fire, and so it will be nice to be back in familiar surroundings. Please contact Jim Martin at 717-940-0529 to make your reservation.

Once again, we had a very successful year with tours, car shows, and events. The leadership team of the club is challenged with continuing to find tours and events that keep our membership involved and are willing to spend their time with us. I really believe we have some exciting ideas for "26" and beyond and ask that you attend our annual membership meeting on January 24th, 2026 (info on the Calendar of Events page).

Finally, I want to remember my friend who recently joined our club, Don Kohn. Don recently passed peacefully at his home in Allentown. R.I.P., Don, and thanks for being my friend. I hope to see you all at our two remaining events, and for those who cannot make both or either, have a great Holiday Season!

Tom Wright



170 STRONG

33 NEW IN 25

Welcome New Members

Jim Adams	
Joe Adams	73 & 74 GrandAm
Rick Anthony	78 TA
Keith Bauer	
Kevin Blevins	71 GTO
John Bollinger	
Robert Davis	70 GTO
Bob Englebert	65 GTO
Walton Hill	57 Convertible
Michael McGourney	68 GTO
Greg Merksamer	
Michael Nester	
Paul Schneck	07 Solstice
Clete Stell	40 DeLuxe
Doug Ulrich	74 GP
Bryon & Lauren Wieder	32 Sport Coupe
Elizabeth Wimmer	66 GTO
Murray Klein	67 Firebird

Returning Previous Members

Kim Uranko	56 Star Chief
Rich Joyce	56 3-Seat Wagon
Lonneta & Richard Bocella	71 GTO

FALL MEET RECAP

It was a great day in late September for our 50th annual Fall Show, once again held at the Shrine of Padre Pio in Barto, PA. What a great venue for a car show.

The show drew nearly 200 General Motors vehicles of all brands, models and some special GM vehicles. There was fine food provided by the J-Walkers of Boyertown, which provide meals to the area homeless.

We had a terrific DJ playing music we all enjoyed along with door prizes, Keystone T-shirts and hats, and a very exciting 50/50 which provided the winner with \$250.00.

25 trophies were awarded to some fabulous cars picked by our team of experienced judges, along with a Best of Show winner and 1st Runner-up. All in all, one terrific day and a very successful fund raiser for the club. Along with the funds raised by the J-Walkers for a local charity, selling both breakfast and lunch items, we made a very generous donation to the Shrine for allowing us to use the facility for 5 years running.

Thanks to all the member volunteers that made the show possible and to all the attending cars that made the show a success. If you would like to help out at either our Spring or Fall Show, please let me know.

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL THE FALL MEET PHOTOS](#)

See ya at our next event. Thanks....Tom Wright



**BEST OF SHOW, Ken Chwal's
1957 GMC Pickup**

2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

GET EVENT INFO AND PRE-REGISTER ON THIS WEBSITE

www.ksepoci.org

Saturday, December 6th: **Christmas Party** at Bird-in-Hand Restaurant, Bird-In-Hand, PA. Contact Jim Martin at 717-940-0529

Jan. 24, 2026, Saturday: **Membership Meeting at Bird-In-Hand Fire Company, 11am start. Contact Jim Martin at: jamesamartin@comcast.net**

SAVE THE DATES:

- Sunday, June 7th, GM on Display (possible alternate May 31st)
- POCI Convention June 23-27
- Sunday, August 2nd, Das Awkscht Fescht Club Day
- Sunday, September 27th or October 4th for the Fall Meet



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

- Feb-March 2026: Jan. 15th
- April-May 2026: March 15th
- June-July 2026: May 15th

SEE US ON FACEBOOK:

[Keystone State Chapter of Pontiac Oakland GMC Club](#)

APPEAL FOR HELP

KSC member and frequent event host, Hank Hallowell will be restoring the 1st Floor Showroom space in his Pontiac dealership building, returning it to a vintage/period showroom. This area is currently a day spa/salon.

For those familiar with his building, it had been a Pontiac/Oakland dealership beginning in the mid 20's thru the early '70's.

Hank is looking for any photographs of the interior showrooms of dealerships from the 40's through 70's. This will give him some insight/guidance into what a showroom may have looked like so that he can end up with a final product that is appropriate for building.

Contact Hank at: gymrat.hank@gmail.com



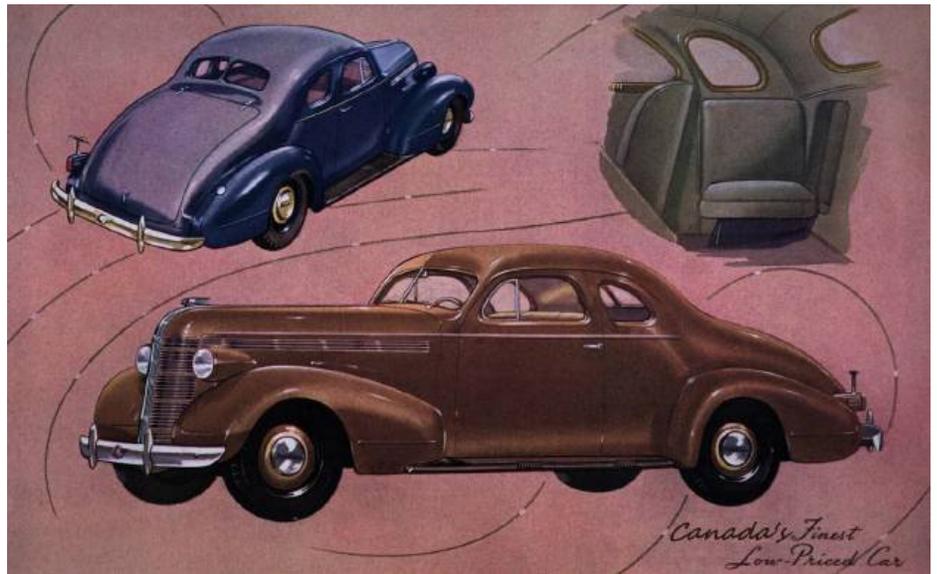
PONTIAC AND GMC TRIVIA

Did you know about Canadian built Pontiacs?

A car guy friend of mine (who knows I am a Pontiac lover) sent me a video of one of those “bring a trailer” episodes where they go to pick up a barn find (shed in this case) of a 1937 Pontiac 4-door sedan. My friend said that in the video the engine looked like what was in his first car, a '51 Chevy. But wait, didn't Pontiacs use flat heads (side valve engines) from 26-54? He was right to question this, and a quick Google search verified that the '37 was made in Canada where they used sometimes shorter and narrower Chevy chassis' and the Chevy overhead valve 6 cylinder.

The factory fitted Pontiac front sheet metal to the nose and a few changes on the dash, then the rest was Chevy. I have seen a '56 Canadian Pontiac (called a Pathfinder) with a stick 6 cylinder when in the US you got a 316 ci V-8 (option to have 2-4's). Why make (sort of) unique Pontiacs in Canada? Canadian

Pontiac started making cars in Canada in 1926, only a few months after the initial introduction in the US. Until 1958 the general pattern was to graft Pontiac bodies and dash boards on to Chevy chassis, using Chevy 6's and V-8's. Starting in the '50's Canadian Pontiacs carried names such as Pathfinder, Laurentian, Parisienne, Strato Chief, Acadian, and Beaumont (Chevelles). This continued until 1970, after the 1965 Automotive Products Trade Agreement (Auto Pact) made it more cost-



Did you know about GMC V-8 Engines:

GMC was the ultimate user of other division's engines; however, the division did have its own unique V8 engine, the GMC 637, produced from 1965 to 1973. Starting in 1955 through 1958, they used Pontiac engines in the smaller trucks – 287 ('55), 316 ('56), 347 ('57, which in Pontiac cars came in 2 & 4bbl, 3-2's, and fuel injection), and in '58 GMC reduced the bore on the 370 to make it 336ci (don't ask why). Canadian built trucks used Chevy engines, starting with the 265 in '55. Also, starting in '55, the larger trucks used the Olds Rocket 88 at 324ci. Then in '57 – '59 the engine grew to 370ci.

Chevy's small-block series was used in the smaller trucks starting in 1959, through 2003, up to 400ci. GMC also shared Chevy big-block V8 from 1968 through 2009 in the larger trucks. Beginning in 1999, GMC began offering GM's LS-based "small-block" V8 engine in various models.

In 2001, GMC began offering the same turbocharged diesel Duramax V8 engines as were available in similar Chevy trucks. The engine family was co-developed by GM Powertrain and Isuzu and has gone through numerous iterations through the years. Duramax engines are paired with a heavy-duty automatic transmission from GM's Allison division.

Getting In To Junk

TO JOIN OR NOT TO JOIN POCI???

Looking through the membership files, as our renewals for 2026 begin, we noticed that there are many Keystone State Chapter members that do not belong to our parent club, P.O.C.I. (Pontiac Oakland Club International). It is not a requirement to belong to POCI, as it once was, in order to be a member of a chapter affiliated with it.

That being said, just what are the benefits of joining POCI? Well, the huge plus is that you receive 9 high quality newsletters per year. Each is filled with articles about cars, car literature, car memorabilia, and a classified section of For Sale and Wanted cars and parts. You can place free ads for your wants and needs as a member. A POCI membership is also necessary to participate in the yearly National Convention which is held at different locations throughout the U.S., usually being held in June. There are also members who serve as Tech Advisors for most years of cars or various models that can be contacted if you have any questions about your car.

There are different types of memberships available. One costs \$25 per year where you receive the 9 yearly issues of the newsletter online. Another option is to receive the newsletter in printed paper form for \$45 per year. Additional information can be found online at poci.org or call the club office at 763-479-2111 and speak with Paul about any questions you may have.

As mentioned earlier, you need to be a POCI member to attend a National Convention. If you are following our Chapter updates you know that the Keystone State Chapter will host the National Convention in 2028. The location is being finalized and will be announced shortly. We will need many of our members to help make this event a success. If you attended and helped in 2019 in Gettysburg, you know this takes many volunteers to run smoothly. Please, if you are not a POCI member, consider joining so you will be able to attend and help your Chapter provide a pleasant experience for those who will be our guests here in the Keystone State.



PONTIAC-OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL

The Story of the Avanti II

by Don Kohn

Some of you might be wondering why an Avanti II would be showing up at an “All GM Show.”

The original Avanti was introduced in 1963. The Avanti was designed by Ramond Loewy and was considered advanced for its time. There was hope that it would save the company, but in 1964 Studebaker closed US manufacturing.

Like the Corvette, the Avanti had a fiberglass body. The typical engine for the Avanti was a 289 (not the Ford 289) or a supercharged 289. Andy Granatelli set world speed records with an Avanti.

Mr. Altman and Mr. Newman, who had a Studebaker dealership, decided that the Avanti should not die. They obtained all the remaining parts, a portion of the Studebaker plant, a number of former workers, and the right to produce Avanti. They named the new company the “Avanti Motor Company” and in 1965 started producing the “Avanti II.

The problem was, while they had all the parts, Studebaker no longer manufactured engines. So, what did they do? They installed 327, 350, 400 and 305 General Motors engines. Other than the drive train, the vehicles were the same as the 1963/64 Studebaker Avanti up until about 1982.

About 10 years ago, I had just sold a car and was at the Das Awkscht Fescht when I spotted a Green Avanti II in the parking lot. It was in good shape, but not perfect. For the most part I have only need to repair a few things and do maintenance. I am lucky to have the original purchase papers. It was custom ordered with Lincoln green paint, sunroof, leather interior. Recaro seats and MOMO steering wheel. The drive train is a General Motors 305 Cu. In. V8 with an automatic transmission.

Now you know why it is OK to bring my Avanti II to an “All GM Show.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: This article was submitted by Don before he passed away at the beginning of November. Don was a relatively new member but was very supportive of our chapter. I felt I should run the article in his honor.



54th Annual POCI International Convention

**PONTIAC, MICHIGAN
JUNE 22-27, 2026**

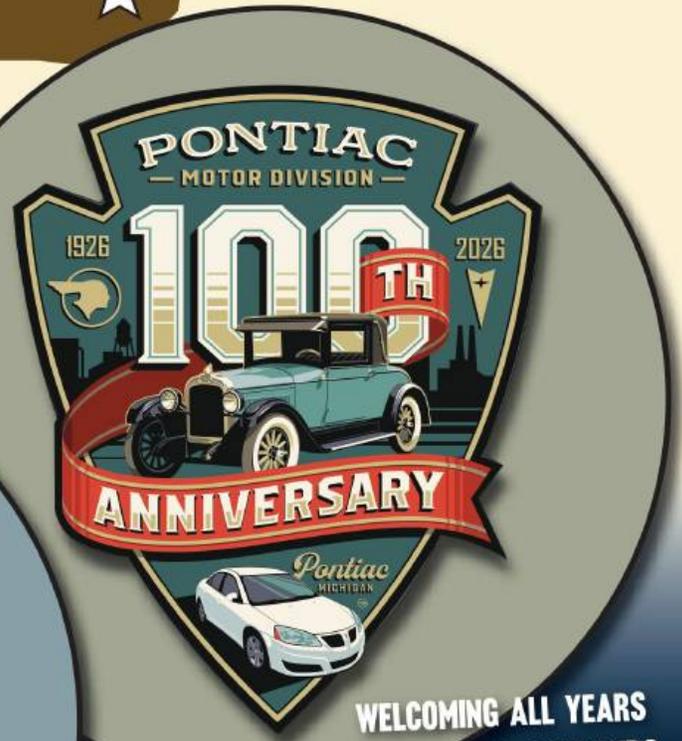
**"Home for the Hundredth"
CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF PONTIAC-MOTOR-DIVISION**

CONVENTION UPDATES AT WWW.POCI.ORG
FOR MORE INFO CALL THE CLUB OFFICE 763-479-2111



- TOURS
- SEMINARS
- SWAP MEET
- 100TH ANNIV. PARADE
- POINTS-JUDGED SHOW
- POPULAR VOTE SHOW
- GUEST SPEAKERS
- CAR RAFFLE GIVEAWAY!
(YES, IT'S A PONTIAC!)
- FREE ADMISSION TO
MUSEUM FOR REGISTRANTS
- CRUISE WOODWARD AVE.
- AND MUCH MORE

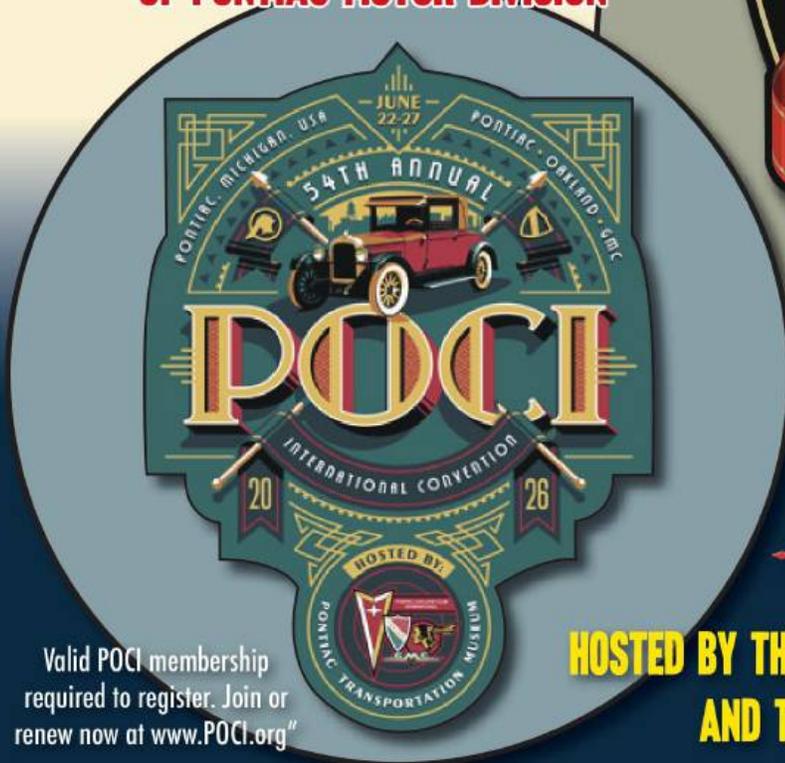
PONTIAC



WELCOMING ALL YEARS
OF PONTIACS, OAKLANDS
AND GMC TRUCKS!



**HOSTED BY THE PONTIAC TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM
AND THE MICHIGAN POCI CHAPTERS**



Valid POCI membership
required to register. Join or
renew now at www.POCI.org

2026 Membership Dues

Sandy and Karen want to thank you for continuing to make our membership numbers a great success. We went from 91 members in 2022 to 124 in 2023, in 2024 we were at 136, and now in 2025 we are at 161 members! We again welcomed many new members and welcomed back a few also. As you may know, everyone's dues for the chapter run from Jan 1st through Dec 31st. So, we are asking everyone to renew your dues again for this coming year, 2026. All current members will receive a "quick link" by email to make your renewal quick and easy. The online form will only ask for name, email and payment. We ask that you email us if you need to make any changes to your roster information. Please note, you may also use the current form that you can find in this newsletter (next page) or online at our website www.kscpoci.org You will print, enter info and send the payment to Sandy Kemp. You may also bring this form and money to the Christmas Party in December or Membership meeting in January, if you are attending (more details to follow). We can collect it from you there, if this is easier but we can not accept dues without a form. We hope to see you at the membership meeting near the end of January but remember you must be a member in good standing to have a right to vote. So if you haven't already sent us your dues, please do so soon. Thanks, Karen and Sandy WHEN USING THE LINK ON THE WEBSITE: Select the red MEMBERSHIP button

Click on the chapter logo below to go directly to the web site or printout form on page 14



SPONSORSHIPS

The Keystone State Chapter is looking for sponsors for our newsletter. For \$25 a year (January-December) we will run a business card ad in all our newsletters and post the card on our bulletin board at our shows. If you are interested in advertising with us or if you know of someone who might be interested, please take a copy of our Sponsorship letter to them (print out the letter on the next page). Some examples of who to ask would be your local auto parts store, hardware store, automotive service or body shops, we will even take restaurants.



Keystone State Chapter, POCI
2191 County Line Rd.
East Greenville PA 18041
267-374-2799
kscpocimembership@gmail.com

January 1, 2025

The Keystone State Chapter POCI just celebrated our 50th anniversary of preserving Pontiacs, Oaklands and GMC's for future generations to enjoy. We are currently 139 members strong with members located in PA, MD, NJ, DE, and NY.

We have exciting news! We're looking for sponsors to help fund our newsletter. And in return for sponsorship, we're offering multiple advertising opportunities throughout the 2025 season.

Would you consider sponsoring our club and donating \$25.00 to help us to meet our goal?

We're so grateful for what our sponsors just like you have helped us accomplish over the years. From funding our car shows to helping with our newsletters and so much more, we're immensely thankful to our past, present, and future sponsors.

To demonstrate our gratitude, the Keystone State Chapter POCI would like to offer you a business card ad in our bi-monthly newsletters for 2025 plus we will post your card on our prominently displayed bulletin board at all our events, in recognition of your gift.

We hope you're able to contribute and thank you for the consideration.

To make a contribution, simply include your gift with this letter and business card and mail to Keystone State Chapter POCI, 2191 County Line Rd, East Greenville PA 18041 or hand deliver to our representative.

Many thanks in advance for your sponsorship! Go Keystone State Chapter POCI!

Sincerely,

Tom Wright, President

P. S. We'd like to invite you to our car shows this year. GM on Display -June 1st at Macungie Memorial Park. All GM Car Show - Sept 28th at Padre Pio Shrine, Barto PA



Membership Form

Please check the box below that applies

Annual Renewal \$20.00
(per year due in January)

New Member (check box below that applies)
 Jan. through December 31st \$20.00
 July 1st through December 31st \$10.00

Please print clearly.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
STREET

CITY STATE ZIP Code

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** (_____) _____
(Required)

KSC newsletters and communications will all be sent electronically.

KSC Number (if you know it): _____ **P.O.C.I. Number (if you know it):** _____

PLEASE LIST ALL YOUR PONTIAC / OAKLAND / GMC VEHICLES OWNED:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL/BODY STYLE

Dues may be paid online at www.kscpoci.org

**OR Make Your Check Payable To: Keystone State Chapter POCI and
Mail To: Sandra Kemp 1603 S. Main St. Bechtelsville, PA 19505**

By becoming a member of the Keystone State Chapter of POCI, I understand the information I have provided may be published in the club directory (No personal contact information will be published on the club's public area website.) You may opt to have only your name included on the list by checking this box

Signature

Date

NL26

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IN CASE YOU COULD USE A LAUGH



OFFICIAL CONVERSION CHART

HOW TO INTERPRET

ANTIQUE CAR ADS

IF IT SAYS:

IT REALLY MEANS:

Rare model.....	Nobody liked them when new either
Older restoration.....	Can't tell it's been restored
Needs engine work.....	It's been frozen for 30 years
Uses no oil.....	Just throws it out
No rust.....	Body and fenders missing
Rough.....	It's too bad to lie about
One owner.....	Never been able to sell
No time to complete.....	Can't find parts anywhere
Needs interior.....	Seats are gone
Rebuilt engine.....	Has new spark plugs
May run.....	But it never has
Low mileage.....	Third time around
Many new parts.....	Keeps breaking down
29 coats hand-rubbed paint....	Needed that much to cover rust
Clean.....	It sat out in the rain yesterday
Best offer.....	About what I expect to get
Always driven slowly.....	Won't go any faster
Prize winner.....	Hard luck trophy 3 times in a row
Stored 25 years.....	Under a tree
Real show stopper.....	Orange with purple fenders
Easy restoration.....	Parts will come off in your hand
Ready to show.....	Just washed it
Top good.....	Only leaks when it rains
Good investment.....	Can't depreciate any more

Editor:
Richard Stover
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Langhorne, PA 19047
kscpociinfo@gmail.com

Keystone State Chapter Membership Information

For general information, contact Karen Britton at
kscmembership@gmail.com

For Pontiac-Oakland Club International information go to
www.poci.org or email: pociworldhq@aol.com

Annual POCI dues are \$45.00 and includes a high quality
color magazine.

Annual Chapter dues are \$20.00 payable in **January**.
It is recommended that you be a member of the P.O.C.I.
along with being a member of the
Keystone State Chapter.

Pay on line at www.kscpoci.org or
Send dues payable to KSC-POCI, c/o Sandra Kemp;
1603 S. Main St.; Bechtelsville, PA 19505

2024 and 2025 Officers and Directors:

President: Tom Wright
Vice President: Sandy Kemp
Treasurer: Richard Stover
Secretary: Karen Britton
Director: Ken Fernsler
Director: Bill McIntosh
Director: Jim Martin
Director: vacant
Director: Stephan Leibert
Co-Activities Director: Ralph Keller
Co-Activities Director: George Burbage
Newsletter Editor: Richard Stover
Chapter Historian: Ralph Keller
Promotional Sales: George & Amy
Burbage
Display Board: Ken Fernsler

Check out our web site: www.kscpoci.org