

## JUNE-JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

# The Original *Pontiacion* Chapter... The **Keystone State Chapter** Pontiac Oakland Club International



Founded September 9, 1974; LONGEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING CHAPTER

***CELEBRATING 51 YEARS IN 2025***



Old Stillwater Garage Show



Everyone loves ice cream  
(Barry's Tour 4/12/25)

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- Chief's Message
- Calendar of Events
- GMC V-8 Engines
- America On Wheels
- Barry's Tour
- Old Stillwater show
- Knoebel's Details
- Sponsors



# From the Chief

Hello, Fellow Members,

Here we are in full swing of the 2025 car season. Our club has been way ahead of the curve as we have already had three successful events-- America on Wheels Museum, Barry's Car Barn, and Stillwater Garage Car Show.

We also ended our six-month display and exhibit at America On Wheels. Thanks to all who participated and attended (article in this newsletter).

Our "GM on Display" show scheduled for June 1st at Macungie Memorial Park is coming up fast. Please put it on your schedule to attend this club-sponsored show. You will enjoy spending time with fellow club members and other GM enthusiasts.

The POCI National Convention is not far behind. It is from June 8th thru June 12th in Louisville, KY. Please let Karen or me know if you are attending so we can schedule a group picture, a table at the Chapter Night banquet, as well as spending some time together.

We will also be attending another club event at the AACA Museum Car Show in June at the Hershey Museum. Last year our club was the big winner as the most club members in attendance. July will be our club picnic at Knoebel's Amusement Park where the club will be providing a very hearty lunch to all attendees. Early August Das Awchest Fescht is right around the corner. Check the Calendar of Events in this newsletter for exact dates and times.

You can see we are one very active club with things to do for all ages and spirits. Come out and enjoy some of these events with us. You will not be disappointed and more will be coming.

See ya down the road,

Tom

**138 SO FAR IN 2025, LOOKING FOR 25 NEW MEMBERS!**

**Welcome Back**

**New Members**

**Terry High**

**'98 Firebird WS6**

**Don Kohn**

## *Barry's Car Barn Tour*

By Jim Martin

April showers and the cool breeze did not hamper our KSC family from enjoying a Smorgasbord of comradery, meeting new friends, great conversation, Classic cars, food and good old fashion fun! Over 35 members and guests came together to enjoy an itinerary that also included a short driving tour of central Lancaster County Amish Country. We rendezvous at the Yoder's Restaurant and Buffet in New Holland for a wonderful sample of good old PA Dutch Food. A Buffet surprise for many who have attended our past Christmas Dinners in Bird-in-Hand was the never-ending portions of HAM BALLS, one of our chapter's favorite entrees! Yoder's has the PA Dutch recipe too. After lunch, we all set out on a short, 20-minute tour through Amish Country to Intercourse and Barry's Car Barn.

This stop was a trip down memory lane! Barry's Car Barn is a classic car museum focusing on American muscle cars from the 1950's thru the 1970's. But it's much more than just classic cars and hot rods. Barry has turned his collection into an indoor gallery of vintage gas pumps and gas station memorabilia, beautifully preserved signage, historic dated Pennsylvania License plates and many related automotive historical items. Although the focus is on American muscle cars, the collection also includes some very rare cars from the 30's and 40's including a 1930 Packard and a 1947 Mercury Woody station wagon. But in addition to his fabulous collection of Mustangs, Corvettes and hot rods, there are many fantastic motorcycles dated from the early 1900's thru the 1970's, many which have been preserved in their original condition. Some of our group members were fortunate enough to meet Barry and receive his personal insights and explanation of his collection favorites. What a beautifully preserved collection of history!

While some of our tour group chose to either remain at Barry's or forgo Emma's Gourmet Popcorn, many of us did make the short drive to our final stop. The question was, popcorn at Emma's, ice cream at Lapp Valley Farm Creamery or both. I'm not sure how that question was answered but I know I saw folks scatter in both directions several times. In addition to all the goodies, one not often seen highlight of this stop was captured by Brenda and Rick Harding. As we turned into the facility, Brenda captured a photo of an Amish buggy stopped at the Lapp Valley takeout window waiting for an order. Probably not a rare sighting for this part of Lancaster County because Lapp's and Emma's are extremely popular stops for folks living in the Intercourse area.

Despite the cool misty beginning of our day, the mood of our members was overwhelmingly cheerful and as a bonus, we were greeted by a burst of sunshine as we departed for home. Thank you to all who attended and make our KSC-POCI family event a tremendous success!



## 2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

GET EVENT INFO AND PRE-REGISTER ON THIS WEBSITE

[www.ksepoci.org](http://www.ksepoci.org)

June 1, Sunday: GM on Display, Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA **(SEE YOU THERE)**

June 8-12: POCI Convention, Louisville, KY

July 12, Saturday: Knoebel's Park **(stay tuned for details)**

August 3, Sunday: Club Day at Das Awkscht Fescht;  
**PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY BY JULY 1st at <https://awkscht.com/>**

Fall Tour TBD

Sept 28th, Sunday, Fall Meet at Padre Pio Shrine, Barto, PA

Nov. 28th, Friday, Junk Yard Tour

Dec. 6th, Saturday, Christmas Party



GMC Logo 1911-1947

**SEE US ON FACEBOOK:**

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

## GMC V-8 ENGINES

by Dick Stover

GMC's own V8 was the 637-cubic-inch (10.4 L) unit, which was essentially a 478 V6 with two cylinders added. It used a single camshaft and was manufactured in gasoline and diesel versions. Produced from 1965 to 1973, this was the largest-displacement production gasoline V8 ever made for highway trucks.

Various GM entities provided V8's to GMC over the years (GMC was the "king" of sharing):

**PONTIAC:** Smaller GMC trucks used the Pontiac V8 engine. They used the Pontiac 287-cubic-inch (4.7 L) engine for 1955 and 316-cubic-inch (5.2 L) engine in 1956 but advertised the engines as the "GMC 288" and "GMC 316". In 1957 the 347-cubic-inch (5.7 L) was used. For 1958, GMC reduced the bore of Pontiac's 370-cubic-inch (6.1 L) resulting in a displacement of 336-cubic-inch (5.5 L). In Canada, however, GMC used the Chevrolet small-block engine rather than the Pontiac, similarly with Canadian built Pontiacs. For 1959, as the Pontiac engine's stroke was lengthened, a further bore reduction was done to keep the displacement at 336.7 cubic inches (5.5 L). The picture on the left below is a Pontiac 287; note the oil bath air cleaner.

**OLDSMOBILE:** Starting in 1955, for the larger trucks, the Oldsmobile Rocket V8 was available. In 1955 and 1956, it was 324 cubic inches (5.3 L). For the 1957 through 1959 model years, the displacement was upped in bore and stroke and called the 370.

**CHEVROLET SMALL-BLOCK:** From 1955 through 2003, GMC shared Chevrolet's small-block V8. This came in 265, 283, 305, 327, 350, and 400 cu in (4.3, 4.6, 5.0, 5.3, 5.7, and 6.6 L) sizes. As noted above, for 1955 through 1958 Canadian built GMC's used the Chevrolet engines, similar to what Canadian Pontiacs did.

**CHEVROLET BIG-BLOCK:** GMC also shared Chevrolet's big-block V8 from 1968 through 2009. The company used the 366, 396, 402, 427, 454, and 496 (6.0, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0, 7.4, and 8.1 L) versions. *Note the absence of the Chevy 348.*

**GM LS-BASED ENGINES:** Beginning in 1999, GMC began offering GM's LS-based "small-block" V8 engine in various models. Through the years, engines have been offered in 4.8, 5.3, 6.0, 6.2, and 6.6-liter displacements.

**DURAMAX ENGINES:** Beginning in 2001, GMC offered the same turbocharged diesel Duramax V8 engines as were available in similar Chevrolet trucks (pic on right). 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.



Logo 1911-1947



## OLD STILLWATER GARAGE

Saturday May 10th was a beautiful day for a car show in Stillwater NJ. Lou Calasibetta, a long time friend of POCI and the Keystone State Chapter hosted his annual "dust off your classic" cruise-in at his garage, Old Stillwater garage. Lou's shop does automotive restoration, repairs, and customizations. Upon our arrival, Lou was grateful that the weather had cleared from the day before. He was doing finishing touches for the show by flashlight on Friday night, hoping the electric would come back on by Saturday, after a storm had rolled through. Although most of the Pontiacs in attendance were from New Jersey, the Keystone State Chapter was represented by Ralph Keller's 1965 Tempest convertible, David Bruschi's 1957 Star Chief, and Steve and Eileen Edling's 1962 convertible. Also in attendance from Keystone State Chapter were Tim and Karen Britton, Jim Martin, AJ and Carol Koszi and Steve Jimmo.



Lou had a Dodge Power Wagon prominently displayed by the stage. He told us they found this truck in the woods, he towed it out and restored it to its original condition. The truck was originally used at his garage by the previous business. Lou kept on display the original door in its original condition. A great piece, with great history.

As in previous years, Lou had the doors open to his various buildings on the grounds showing some of his current projects in different stages of being reconditioned. The lot was filled with a variety of makes and models, stock and custom, old and new. Lou

had another very successful day and we thank him and his crew for a very enjoyable day!



*Lou Calasibetta and Anthony Griffo with their 1962 white Bonnevilles*



The picnic is Saturday, July 12th, at Pavilion Tent #4 (T-4), which is on a small island in the stream behind Pavilion G (which is where we were last year). These are all behind the Skloosh water ride, next to the small stream in that area. Have 3 tables for 30 people. KSC is paying for meals again this year. A typical picnic lunch will be served, at about 1 PM. Members with ID showing military service can receive one free book of tickets at the park office.

**CONTACT: Ralph Keller at 570-326-9237 **BY JULY 1st** to let him know you are coming so he can order the food.**

### **RECOMMENDED EVENT**

**AACA Museum Bill Smith Cruise In, Sat. 6/21, 8-3:** As previous, any of KSC attendees **that pre-register** will be entitled to complimentary lunch passes. We also feature a specific attending car club award. Here is our [registration link](#)  
**WHEN PREREGISTERING, BE SURE TO FILL OUT AS SHOWN BELOW**

**Are you attending as a part of a car club? \***

- Yes  
 No

You must indicate the club if you are attending as a member of a car club. Car club membership counts are based on pre-registered member only.

**Name of your participating car club.**

## ***YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU TO DO YOUR HOMEWORK***

Do you remember when your mother told you to do your homework and you tried to find every excuse not to do it, then gave it a “lick and a promise”, and the next day regretted it because you could not answer any questions the teacher asked you?

Well, the same is never truer when looking for a classic car, and especially when using the auction route.

Some of you know I work part time **IN THE OFFICE** (my wrenching days are over) of a private repair shop that was started in 1965. They have been my mechanic since 1984 and did most of the mechanical restoration on my 1948 Pontiac. These guys know cars and have a reputation for working on classics, along with everything else. Therefore, on any given day there is always an interesting story – as the boss would say, “You can’t make this stuff up!”

In mid-April a new customer came in and wanted the shop to go over the ‘67 Chevelle 396 he had recently purchased through (name deleted) auction. He explained that this was his second try at owning a car like this, as the previous experience had not gone well. He related that this newest Chevelle had been restored to better-than-driver level. We talked some more, and it was obvious this man was not very astute with the mechanicals and had **NOT** done much homework before laying out some significant green backs for the ‘67.

A week later the car came in with a **TO DO** list, and in a few days, it was up in the air. Along the way it was decided that the springs were weak and needed to be replaced. That was completed, along with getting the 396 to purr as it should, and down the **TO DO** list. With the springs in place and the car on all fours, someone noticed why they had struggled to get the springs in place – the car did not sit level. Back up in the air it went with the lead mechanic and the garage owner going over the underneath with a magnifying glass. They found the reason. Evidently the frame under the passenger side door had rotted out and someone had welded in some patches. Yup, you guessed it; the frame was not straight.

As you can imagine, the 67’s owner had a minor meltdown (this was strike 2 and you know what happens on strike 3!!). Fortunately, both the lead mechanic and the garage owner have a lot of experience with welding, rust and rot repair, and building race cars. It was decided that a couple of shims could fix the problem (with fingers and toes crossed). **IT PAYS TO HAVE REAL MECHANICS GO OVER A CAR BEFORE YOU PLUNK DOWN \$\$\$\$ !**

*By Dick Stover*

### **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



# 50th Annual Fall Meet

## All GM Car and Truck Show

Sponsored by: Keystone State Chapter, Pontiac Oakland Club International

**Sunday, September 28, 2025, 8:30AM to 2:30PM, Rain or Shine,  
at The Shrine for Padre Pio, 111 Barto Rd, Barto, PA 19504**



**Trophies to the top 25 EXCEPTIONAL vehicles PLUS a separate BEST IN SHOW!**

**Food, music, trophies, door prizes & flea market**

A portion of the show proceeds to benefit The Shrine for Padre Pio & a Local Homeless Shelter

**Day of Show Registration: 8:30AM-11:30AM**

**Trophies and Door Prizes: 2PM**

**KSC FALL MEET PRE-REGISTRATION      DEADLINE: September 20, 2025**

Send to: Sandy Kemp, 1603 South Main St.,  
Bechtelsville, PA 19505

**Pre-Registration Cost: \$15.00/Vehicle  
Day of Show Registration: \$20.00/Vehicle**

Enclose: \$15.00/Vehicle    \$20.00 flea market space

Payable to: Keystone State Chapter, POCL or on-line at [www.kscpoci.org](http://www.kscpoci.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

CAR MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ BODY STYLE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

CAR MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ BODY STYLE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

# Flea market spaces @ \$20.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

By signing, you agree to hold harmless the KSC of POCL, its officers and directors, for injury, property damage or any other claim.

More Information? Call Tom Wright 610-587-3468 or [tommyjw22@yahoo.com](mailto:tommyjw22@yahoo.com).

# AMERICA ON WHEELS CLUB CONTEST

*by Tom Wright*

Over a year ago I was asked, as the current president of the Keystone Chapter of POCI, to consider participating in a new venture at the museum in Allentown, PA, known as America On Wheels.

I met a gentleman a few years ago at one of the chapter's car shows. He said he enjoyed attending our shows, and he wanted to discuss a contest of sorts between our Pontiac Club and three other car clubs. I said we would be interested in hearing more details. He said he would be in touch with me with additional information. He also went on to mention that he was still working out the details of the "contest" and selling it to the museum.

Rich Greene turned out to be the museum's representative and is now a good friend. In the summer of 2024 at GM on Display, Rich said they worked out all the details and were ready to move forward. He shared the details with me and asked if we would be ready to go in October. The contest would consist of 4 clubs-- Keystone Chapter, Thunderbird Club, Mopar's, and finally the Wheels of Time Hotrod Club.

Each club would be given a space for three cars of their choice and a display theme developed by each club's imagination. The visitors to the museum would be given a ballot as well as club information and then they would vote on their favorite exhibit. At the end of the exhibit (October 15 through April 15, 2025) a count of votes would decide the club winner.

I then proceeded to pick three vehicles from our club members. The owners were asked to give up their cars for six months, but free storage for the winter months in a warm facility made it easy to get a strong willingness to participate - who doesn't like free storage?

The three participants agreed on our theme-- The History of Pontiac. The history is hard to explain with only three cars, but I think we did pretty good with Jim & Elka Martin's 1926 Pontiac (more on Jim's car in a future newsletter) which was the first Pontiac model year. Tim & Karen Britton entered their 1959 Bonneville introducing iconic first year "Wide Track" and "Tri-Power". Finally, my own 2004-05 Bonneville, which ended 48 years of Bonneville production, and some believe started the demise of our beloved Pontiac.

We peppered the display with a few historic posters supplied from the collection of our own club member Bill McIntosh, highlighting Pontiac's World War II participation. Again, hard to put 80 years of history into three examples. At the end of the six months, the participants were invited to a luncheon at the museum in thanks for their contribution and participation and to present the fan favorite winner as judged by museum visitors' votes. Unfortunately, the Pontiac display was not the winner. That honor went to the Thunderbird Club who had three classic examples of the highly popular T-birds. Well deserved; a fine exhibit.

Our club did very well, but more importantly we got some great visibility for our chapter, met some other car collector clubs, and very importantly, started a long-time relationship and friendship with the AOW museum. I feel the three clubs that participated, along with so many of our club members who attended the exhibit, felt it was an experience no one would ever forget. Enjoy the pictures of the exhibit and a certificate from the museum thanking Keystone for participating in the inaugural "Battle of the Car Clubs."



# IN CASE YOU COULD USE A LAUGH

An oldie but a goodie



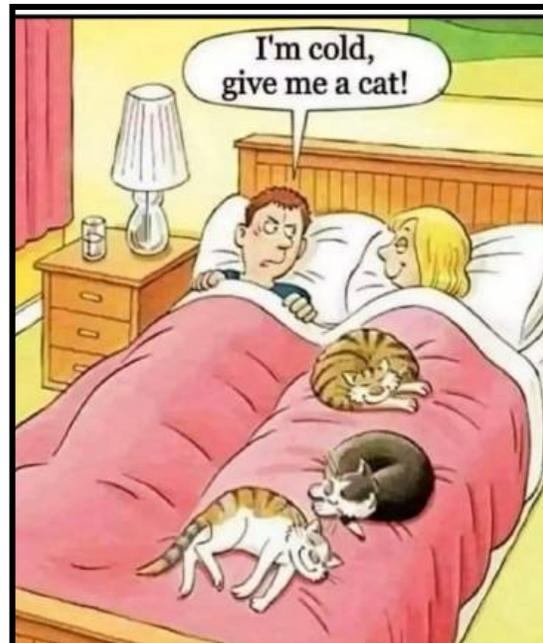
WHY THE LONG FACE?



Crate engine



"We've crashed four times, blew three engines and been in two fist fights but we expect to do better in our second race."



# Support our Sponsors



**Bernville**  
**AUTO**  
**PARTS, SERVICE, SALES**

AC Delco Preferred Service Center  
 Dale Balthaser, *Owner* 127 W. 2nd Street  
 Phone (610) 488-7327 Bernville, PA 19506



**The Shed Store**

Sheds • Garages • Horse Barns • Run-Ins

Rt 183, Bernville, PA 610-488-7327

*Simply a Better Built Shed*



Angelo (Andy) Pace Coopersburg PA 18036

914 433 2970 APACE777@AOL.COM

ALWAYS BUYING ANTIQUE TOYS  
 ADVERTISING, GAS & OIL ITEMS

610-533-8668



**Ralph Mehrkam**  
**Antique & Performance**  
**Transmission Service Specialist**

- Street Rods
- Muscle Cars
- Vintage and Classic

*Providing Quality Transmission Service Since 1973*



**BILL'S**  
**SERVICE**

HOT RODS • CUSTOMS • CLASSICS • SODA BLASTING  
 NAZARETH, PA 610-746-0602



**SAFARI**  
**AUTOMOTIVE**  
**SALES & SERVICE**

Complete Auto Repair & Tire Center  
 Import & Domestic

**610-967-2666**  
 www.safariautomotive.com

945 CHESTNUT ST., EMMAUS, PA 18049



**AutoPARTS**  
 warehouse

**eapw.com**



**Bruce Williams**  
 Store Manager

Pottstown AutoParts Warehouse  
 181 Possum Hollow Rd., Pottstown, PA 18464  
 Phone: (484) 931-2133  
 bwilliams@eapw.com



**DREISBACH'S AUTO**  
**SERVICE & SALES**

614 NORTH 18<sup>TH</sup>  
 ALLENTOWN, PA 18104  
 DREIS614@RCN.COM  
 610-435-7505




Morgantown, Pennsylvania 19543  
 www.ClassicAutoMall.com

**CLASSIC AUTO MALL**

Steve Saffier  
 Car Specialist

Mobile: (267) 467-3777  
 steves@classicautomall.com

**Retro Radio Restoration**  
*"If it's Retro, it's Right"*

AM/FM Stereo Conversions and Restorations  
 Mike & Christine Frenchek

717-367-1428  
 5524 Ridge Road  
 Elizabethtown, PA 17022



mfrenchek@retroradio.biz www.retroradio.biz

Editor:  
Richard Stover  
2314 Fonthill Ct.  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
kscpociinfo@gmail.com

HOW ABOUT YOU, YES, YOU  
WRITING AN ARTICLE ABOUT  
YOUR CAR or CARS, AND HOW  
YOU CAME TO HAVE THEM?

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE**

**-Aug-Sept 2025: July 15th  
-Oct-Nov 2025: Sept. 15th  
-Dec-Jan 2026: Nov. 15th**

T



1974-2024  
Congratulations Keystone State Chapter,  
the oldest, continuous Chapter in POCI  
Just think: 50 years, now 51!

Also, in addition our club store has been restocked with some new goodies.  
We will be selling a KSC - 1974 hat pin (a little different from the 50th anniversary gift pin). We also now have blue long sleeve t-shirts and red short sleeve t-shirts with the vintage print on the front. These are really nice quality and sure to be a best seller as they were years ago.

And new this year - we can now accept credit cards for payment for all merchandise on site or over the phone!

**Keystone State Chapter Membership Information**

For general information, contact Karen Britton at [kscmembership@gmail.com](mailto:kscmembership@gmail.com)

For Pontiac-Oakland Club International information go to [www.poci.org](http://www.poci.org) or email: [pociworldhq@aol.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.kscpoci.org)**