



THE TRACKER
NOV DEC
2019




Cruising Into Winter

BLANK



Enjoying Michigan's Beauty in a Pontiac

RIGHT AS RAIN (PP. 4-7)
**1956 GMC SUBURBAN PICK-UP
(PP. 8-9)**
FALL COLOR TOUR (P. 12)

 **PONTIAC-OAKLAND CLUB
INTERNATIONAL**

**MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS
CHAPTER 16 OF POCI**

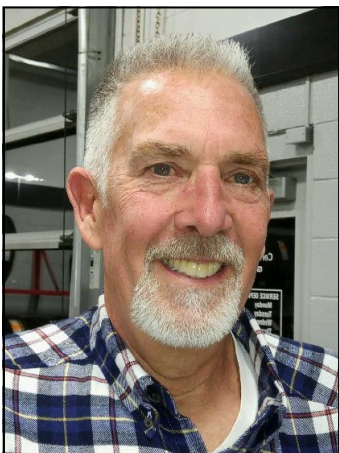
WWW.MIWIDETRACKERS16.ORG

Hello, fellow club members,

This summer sure has gone by fast. It seems like I just got the car out of storage and here it is time to put it back in storage. What a great summer for all of the car functions that I went to. I certainly enjoyed them all.

Now here we are getting ready for the Christmas Parade. In the club we have some great people working on the float. With the designers and fabricators there is a lot of talented members in our club. I am sure it will be another fabulous float.

I have recovered from my broken hand. The cast came off two weeks ago. Now I have to remember how to use two hands instead of just one. Also I learned where not to put my hand when removing a broken axle out of a chipper truck.



The club is doing well. We have as of October 120 members. That is good because it seems to me a lot of car clubs are getting smaller or going away. We must be doing things right.

I will stop here. I can hear leaves calling my name to start raking them up. Hope to see everyone at the club meetings.



Winter Storage Tips



In case you didn't get around to prepping your Pontiac for winter storage, it's never too late. Here are a few tips on things to do.

Winter sure arrived with a bang this year. Here are a few last-minute winterizing ideas from around the web, in case you and your precious Pontiac was caught unprepared.

Start with your engine. Fuel additive like STA-BIL...some feel it's essential, especially if running a fuel blended with alcohol. Some say alcohol fuels don't break down for years. My take is that it's cheap insurance, so why not? Make your last fill-up an alcohol free one to boot. And keep your tank full for winter. No extra air space in the tank eliminates room for moisture to condense on steel parts and cause corrosion. Check all other fluids, top them off. Test your anti-freeze strength. Fresh oil and filter never hurt. Don't have a Battery Tender or similar device? I'd consider getting one.

Avoid flat spots. Make sure your tires are at the recommended pressure, or maybe a few pounds more. I've read that the rounded base of wheel dollies more evenly supports your tires. And they make your car easier to move if needed.

Keep critters out! Start by blocking paths into the vehicle. Doors and windows tightly closed, vents closed, and tail pipes plugged (I've read that tennis balls or even steel wool work nicely). Clean the interior thoroughly...leave no French fries or other dropped food under the seats which might draw them in. Some prefer strong scented items like moth balls, large shavings of Irish Spring soap, or drier sheets. I hope you don't have any hole in your front-of-dash (aka firewall), but if you do, seal them up.

Control humidity. Companies like Damp-Rid and Arm & Hammer make moisture absorbers which are easy to open and place inside your vehicle to help keep humidity under control.

Protect your paint! A fresh coat of wax and a car cover will protect your paint. Now go settle in for winter, knowing your Pontiac is better protected to start the next cruising season.

<http://knowhow.napaonline.com/prepare-your-car-for-long-term-storage-a-handly-checklist/>

<https://www.harborfreight.com/1000-lb-capacity-vehicle-dollies-2-pc-61283.html>

<https://damprid.com/>

<http://www.armandhammermoistureabsorber.com/>

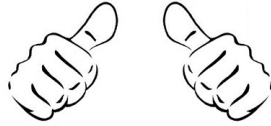
<https://www.batterytender.com/>

Right As Rain

By Mike Bartley

In the summer, I take the truck to work because I like the sound it makes at 4:45 am on London Rd in Sarnia and you punch it. The other day, it was raining - not enough to justify having the wipers on low, but enough to have the wipers on a low delay setting. Sounds simple, but guess who does not have delay wipers in his truck?

THIS GUY



I got thinking about the car that's sitting in the garage, and how it's similarly equipped. I decided that trying to squint through the windshield isn't even an option. So, if you're like me and you plan on rocking your car in the rain, you might want to call up the folks at New Port Engineering, and they can set you up with a delay wiper motor, switch, and even a windshield washer pump.



Contact them at:

www.newportwipers.com

1-800-829-1929

After shelling out about \$340.00USD (or \$50,000 CAD), they shipped us a wiper motor, delay switch, and a washer pump for a GM A-body car. The package arrived in a couple days, but there was a problem with the order as they sent the wrong wiper switch. A quick phone call and an email later, the correction was made and the installation could begin.



The wiper assembly comes mounted to the bracket to install on to your A-body GM car

(Continued on page 6)

Right As Rain

(Continued)

I could say this project started off by removing the old motor, pump and switch, but since the car is already gutted, ours was simply an installation. But you do you - if you have the luxury of having a fully assembled car, start by taking out the parts you're not going to need. The New Port wiper motor bolted in place of the old one with ease, and the new hardware was spec'd to match the car.



The motor bolted into the stock location and connected to the wiper transmission with ease. Just remember that a 50 year old wiper transmission could use some cleaning and then a light coating of grease.

Next we installed the wiper switch in the car. This switch does not slide like the factory one, but rotates. You will feel the clicks. The first click is the delay, then a second click for the low setting, and a third click for the high setting.



The new wiper switch looks like the old one but instead of sliding to the right, it turns. The first click is the delay setting, the second click is low, and the third is high. Push it in for the washer function.

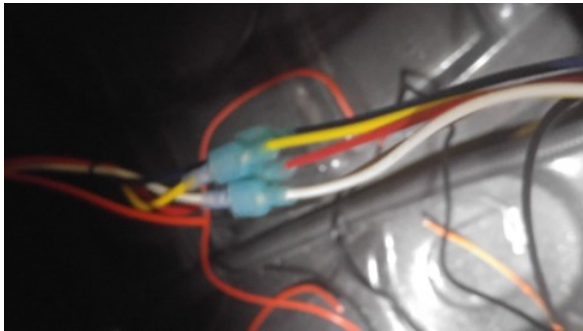


Installed in the dash you can barely tell it did not come from the factory.

(Continued on page 6)

Right As Rain (Continued)

The wiring from the motor was routed into the cabin and connected up to the switch wiring. It was very simple, as all you had to do was match up the wire colours - white to white, etc. The wiring was tucked up under the dash and hidden out of sight.



Connect the wiring under the dash. You will have to feed the wiring from the motor through the firewall and then just connect the matching colours together.

The last install part was to install the windshield washer pump. This little pump is a stand-alone piece that takes the power from the switch and is independently grounded to the firewall.



We went with the New Port washer pump. Instead of having a pulsing washer fluid, this comes out as a spray like a modern car. Later, we will be converting the car to wet arms.

(Continued on page 8)

Right As Rain (Continued)



Instead of just slamming the pump in with self-drilling tek screws, we used nutserts in the firewall to make a nicer looking install.

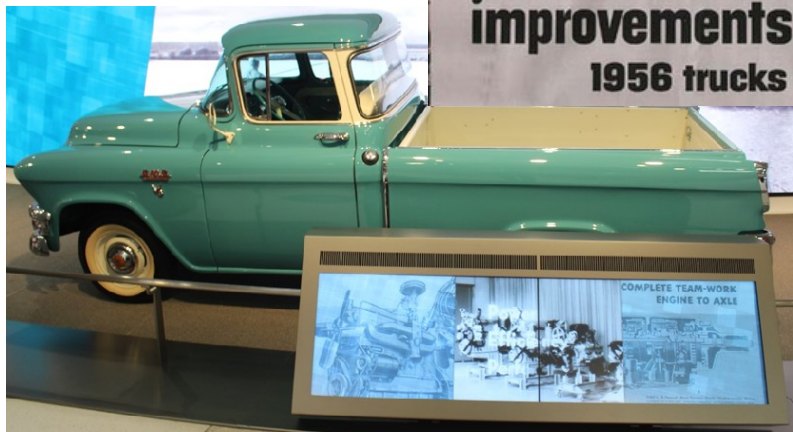


The pump is now installed in the car. Yes the wiring was eventually hidden in wiring loom.

(Continued on page 11)

1956 GMC Suburban Pick-Up By Dennis Carol

From the GM Heritage Collection, currently on display in the basement of the GM Renaissance Center (as known as the GM Wintergarten), is the rare, Pontiac V8-powered 1956 GMC Suburban pick-up. This is GMC's version of the Chevy Apache.



1956 GMC Suburban Pick-Up (Continued)



Right As Rain (Continued)

The final wiring connection was made not to the American Autowire wiring harness, but to a standalone fuse panel that is in the engine bay. Keep in mind that running constant power to the motor does run the risk of the wipers being left on while the car is parked. It's a risk, but I chose to run it to a constant power source because we like to go to the drive-in movies. This will allow for the windshield to be cleared without turning on all the electrical in the car.



The car is so happy now, it's crying.

So get busy driving. What are you waiting for?



We are sorry to announce that Widetracker member Stanley Paurazas passed away September 17, 2019.

Stan had a passion for automobiles his entire life, working in the automotive industry for his entire career, starting with General Motors, the Ford Motor Company, Volkswagen and finally became Plant Manager at Outer Drive Manufacturing Technical Center at Chrysler Corporation. (When at Volkswagen, Lee Iacocca sent him a telegram asking him to join his team to restart the Chrysler Corporation.)



He was an avid fan of classic cars and made an annual trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania for the car show. He would showcase his cars annually at Motor Muster and Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village, as well as volunteering at the Concourse de Elegance show. His other hobbies included boating and traveling as well as building homes.

Widetrackers Drive-Thru (Well, We Are an Eating Club With a Car Habit...)



Whenever the Widetrackers get together, there is always food with fellowship. Our monthly pot-luck suppers are always an amazing sight to behold, and over the course of the night *someone* is bound to ask *someone* for a recipe.

The Widetracker Drive-Thru is a chance for members to share some of their signature dishes with the group, and maybe you can find a new favourite among the offerings!

Chicken Taco Dip

- ▽ 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- ▽ 1 12.5 oz. can white chunk chicken breast
- ▽ 1 8oz. Jar mild taco sauce
- ▽ 1 packet taco seasoning

1. Pre-heat oven to 350*.
2. Drain water from chicken.
3. Put chicken in an oven safe dish.
4. Shred chicken with a fork.
5. Mix in taco sauce and seasoning.
6. Mix in cheese.
7. Bake for 30 minutes at 350*.
8. Serve with tortilla chips.



Do you have a recipe you'd like to share? Just email it to us!
Dave Todd at poci16tracker@gmail.com

FALL COLOR TOUR

The Widetracker's Fall Color Tour was held October 12. We met at John McMullen's home, with an opportunity to enjoy his beautiful collection of automobiles. Thank you Mr. McMullen!

After some donuts and cider, it was off on our tour. The weather was absolutely perfect, and no broken windshields this year!



FALL COLOR TOUR

A mid-tour break at Collette's Vintage Art & Antiques gave us a chance to stretch our legs, and buy a few of those items we didn't know we needed. The final leg of the tour took us to Hadley for some ice cream. Thank you to Wade Cleffman & Carol Hendrix for all of the planning work.



Continued on Page 17.

For Sale

1987 FIERO SE. RED

4-cyl, 5-speed. New transmission and rear brakes. New wiring. A/C. Very nice looking car, sporty, and fun to drive. Runs great!

\$2400

Contact Karen Cline
(248) 978-6581

karencline@sbcglobal.net



1964 PONTIAC CATALINA VENTURA

New A/C, all original upholstery except front seat bottom. Extra 8 lug wheels, original radio, trim pieces, paint codes, manuals, etc. are available.

Asking \$14,900

Contact Ernie Dacey
(248) 887-6876



FOR SALE—VERY RARE BIRD!

Fully Optioned '79 Trans Am 10th Anniv. Special Edition

6.6L/403 CI V8 auto. Silver w/ silver leather interior and biggest hood decal ever. Mirrored T-tops. Orig. fluted aluminum rims w/ new TA tires. Recent repaint. 8 track!

Nearly all original. Added headers and beefed up rear tire gear but have all original parts. Great driver/survivor car.

50k original miles, NO RUST—would be great for resto-mod or Pro Touring!

Asking \$27k but will consider all reasonable offers

Contact Tim Andrews
(248) 884-0580



For Sale

(Continued)

FOR SALE:

'72 Corvette convertible, red with black leather interior & top. 350 small block, 4 speed, power steering, headers, 2" exhaust system. Minimum miles on rebuilt engine. Too many parts replaced or rebuilt to list.

Asking \$30k



Contact Leo Brennan
(810) 629-2484



FOR SALE:

'67 GTO Ring and Pinion Carrier AXLE to AXLE 390 gear ratio, number matching '67 GTO.

Came out of my '69 GTO. Not positive traction. Guaranteed. \$300.00.

Call Ken Vanniman
(810) 664-2576 Lapeer

FOR SALE

1965 Tri Power. Professionally rebuilt carburetor. Ready to bolt on. Comes with manifolds, gas lines, and intake. **\$1850**

Call Ken Orlowski
(586) 243-5398

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SELL? WHOLE CARS, PARTS, MEMORABILIA? MAKING EXTRA ROOM IN THE SHOP FOR A WINTER PROJECT? NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL THE ITEM, ALL WIDETRACKER MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO ADVERTISE FOR FREE IN THE TRACKER.

SIMPLY EMAIL THE TRACKER AT POCHTRACKER@GMAIL.COM WITH THE DETAILS AND PHOTOS. THE AD WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT AVAILABLE ISSUE.

Driver's Complaint: This thing is hard to steer

Diagnosis: Loose Nut Behind Wheel

As this month's cover photo will attest, fall is here. As I write this, Halloween is just days away, and Thanksgiving is not far off either.

Thanksgiving. That uniquely North American holiday (Wikipedia says it's also celebrated in parts of the Caribbean and Liberia...who knew?) in which we give thanks for...well, you don't need a history lesson. And often we each have very different things to be thankful for.

As a club, we are very fortunate. We have great members, great supporters, and a great marquee to celebrate and be thankful for. And we also had great editors for The Tracker in Jenn and Mike Bartley for the last 6 years. Six years is a **whole lot of hours** spent writing, editing, laying out, printing and mailing the Tracker. And with timing as found in a Hollywood script, POCI recognized them for their efforts as they were retiring. Better than a gold watch, I'd say. If you haven't had the chance, the next time you see them, be sure to thank them for their selfless efforts over the years.

So who is this new editor anyway (the above mentioned loose nut now behind the wheel of your beloved Tracker)? Quick bio: I'm a native of Illinois, moved to Michigan in '89 to work for GM (EDS), where I remained for just short of 30 years. My job moved to Tulsa this past spring, and I did not. So I'm now working for another automaker. My degrees, and all but 5 years or so of my work experience are automotive in nature. I'm married to my fortunate patient wife of 25 years, Jennifer, and we have two children in college.

That's my Bright Red '88 Trans Am pictured below, with matching Bright Red wheels. Maybe you've seen it out and about? When I brought it home, my good neighbors the Bunkers immediately descended on me, accompanied by Charlie Long...membership packet in hand, to discuss joining the Widetrackers, which I did in 2014. You may thank, or blame them as you see fit.



Now after several years of membership, and enjoying club events, it's my turn to give a little something back. I hope I can do half as well as my predecessors.

As always, The Tracker is **YOUR** magazine. I just paste it together. So please think about contributing an article, joke, recipe, etc.

See you in 2020.

Dave
POCI16Tracker@gmail.com

TRACKER DISCLAIMER

The Tracker is a bi-monthly publication of the Michigan Widetrackers Chapter 16 of Pontiac Oakland Club International (POCI). The articles, editorials and information contained in *The Tracker* come from a variety of sources and represent the views and opinions of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the Widetrackers or any of its officers. While we attempt to print material that is accurate, we do not assume any responsibility for errors, omissions, inaccuracies or contrary interpretation of the subject matter herein.

FALL COLOR TOUR

(CONTINUED)



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Starting with this issue, *The Tracker* will be delivered **BY EMAIL ONLY**.

If your email information is incomplete, please send your information to Clarice at:

CLARICE.HUMPHREY@YAHOO.COM

Special requests for a paper copy of The Tracker will be considered by the Board of Directors in hardship cases, on a case by case basis.

Hardship requests must be sent to the President, Arnold Boersma, in writing at:

ARNOLDGP99@AOL.COM

The Last Laugh

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica.

45 volumes. Excellent condition.

\$100 or best offer.

Reason for sale: No longer required.

Got married last weekend.

From the "Who needs seatbelts?" department...



Lady (to her doctor): "What I am worried about is my height and not my weight."

Doctor: "How come?"

Lady: "According to my weight, my height should be 7 feet, 8 inches."

The Last Laugh

Once upon a time there was a shepherd looking after his sheep on the side of a deserted road. Suddenly a brand-new Porsche screeches to a halt. The driver, a man dressed in an Armani suit, Cerruti shoes, Ray-Ban sunglasses, TAG-Heuer wrist-watch, and a Pierre Cardin tie, gets out and asks the shepherd: "If I can tell you how many sheep you have, will you give me one of them?"

The shepherd looks at the young man, and then looks at the large flock of grazing sheep and replies: "Okay."

The young man parks the car, connects his laptop to the mobile-fax, enters a NASA Webster, scans the ground using his GPS, opens a database and 60 Excel tables filled with logarithms and pivot tables, then prints out a 150-page report on his high-tech mini-printer. He turns to the shepherd and says, "You have exactly 1,586 sheep here."

The shepherd cheers, "That's correct, you can have your sheep." The young man makes his pick and puts it in the back of his Porsche. The shepherd looks at him and asks: "If I guess your profession, will you return my animal to me?"

The young man answers, "Yes, why not?" The shepherd says, "You are an IT consultant."

"How did you know?" asks the young man.

"Very simple," answers the shepherd. "First, you came here without being called. Second, you charged me a fee to tell me something I already knew, and third, you don't understand anything about my business... Now can I have my DOG back?"

Q. Why is a moon rock tastier than an Earth rock?

A. It's a little meteor.

Q: How long does it take to know if a pair of underwear fits you well?

A: Just a brief moment!

Q: Why should you sit in a corner when you get cold?

A: Because most corners are 90 degrees.

Q: What kind of Christmas music do elves like?

A: "Wrap" music

My boss arrived at work in a brand-new Lamborghini. "Wow," I said. "That's an amazing car." He replied, "If you work hard, put all your hours in, and strive for excellence, I'll get another one next year."

I was in my patrol car by a blinking red light—the equivalent of a stop sign—when I watched an elderly man drive straight through without even slowing down. I quickly hit the siren and pulled him over. "Why did you drive through the red light?" I asked him.

"I didn't," he said.

"I saw you."

He shook his head. "I went through between the blinks."

Club Products for Sale



**Contact Tom or Marlyn
Clees**

(248) 891-7809

(248) 505-6953

Or

teclees1@aol.com

It's a new year, and a new cruise season, so, why not consider some Widetracker apparel? The club can help you out! Just see Tom or Marlyn to place your order. Or, you can always bring in your own items to get the club logo put on them. You can have your items nicely embroidered, or silkscreened. It's a great way to show your Pontiac love, advertise the club and bring in new members!



NAMETAGS!

Are you new? Do people keep asking you who you are? Do you need a nametag? New or replacement magnetic backed nametags can be ordered from Bill Coombe for a nominal cost of \$10. **We order the week before the monthly meeting, and you can either pick yours up there, or ask a friend to grab it for you if you can't attend in person. Sorry, but we don't send them through the post.** (We'd hate to see them damaged!!)

See him at the meetings, or contact him by phone at 586-293-0662 or via email at: bcgrandmarquis@gmail.com

A PSA From POCI

Help us KEEP THE PONTIAC LEGACY ALIVE!

If you are not yet a member of POCI and would like to check out our monthly magazine, *Smoke Signals*, please email or call the club office and we'll mail you a free copy and an application form to join up.

POCI is the largest Pontiac club in the world! Our monthly magazine has great articles, you will get access to our technical advisors and the best classified ads (on-line and in our magazine) for Pontiac, Oakland and GMC vehicles and parts for sale and wanted.

See more details on our website www.poci.org. Call 877-368-3454 or email pociworldhq@aol.com (say: Free Smoke Signals please! and include your name and mailing address).

Paul Bergstrom

POCI Club Office Manager



EVENTS CALENDAR

See miwidetrackers16.org for more specific times and info!

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dec 6 | Edsel Ford House Visit | Edsel Ford House |
| Dec 6 | Holly Jolly Folly | Golling Buick GMC |
| Dec 7 | Orion Annual Lighted Parade | Village of Lake Orion |
| Dec 14 | Club Meeting, 5:30pm | Golling Buick GMC |
| Dec 25 | Merry Christmas | Everywhere! |
| Jan 4 & 5 | Detroit Swap Meet | Suburban Collection Showplace |
| Jan 11 | Club Meeting | Golling Buick GMC |
| Jan 26 | Holiday Dinner | Shark Club |



As you can see, there are a TON of activities planned for the coming months! The club is always looking for new and exciting places to visit in addition to our favourite go-to's! If you've got an idea of somewhere we should see, pass your suggestions on to a member of the social committee—they'd love to hear from you. After all, the club is only as good as you want to make it!

New Members—Welcome!

Robert & Mary Walker— Swartz Creek
Earl & Kathy Smith— Clarkston



For those who don't know her, this is the lovely lady who takes care of all things paperwork for us! (We love you, Clarice! ♥)

Anyone needing membership packets, contact Clarice Humphrey at (248)628-4280 or email clarice.humphrey@yahoo.com .

Reminder: Send Clarice your POCI number if you have one and it's not listed on the Membership Roster. Thanks!

CLUB CONTACTS

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Activities Committee

VanSickle, Boersma, Cleffman, Armstrong,
Coombe, Humphrey, Long & Kokenos families

www.miwidetrackers16.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS

PONTIAC OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 16

Benefits of Membership:

Local, National & International contacts, *Smoke Signals*, POCI monthly magazine with tech restoration info & free Advertising. *Tracker* Newsletter published bimonthly with events & meetings.

Today's Date: _____

Primary Member: _____ Birth date: _____

Spouse/Associate Member: _____ Birth date: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

THE MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS TO JOIN THE PONTIAC OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL (POCI). APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT POCI.ORG - POCI # _____

Signature: _____

Classic of Collector Car(s) Year Make Model #of Cylinders

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Widetracker club dues are \$18.00 per year paid each May 1st. If joining for the first time, dues will be prorated at \$1.50 per month. Please pay by cash or check made out to:

MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS.

Return this application and dues to:

MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS CHAPTER 16 OF POCI

c/o Clarice Humphrey

4993 E Harvard Ave, Clarkston MI, 48348

New member _____ Renewal _____

Shirt size _____ Spouse Shirt Size _____

Payment: Cash _____ Check # _____

Contact the Widetrackers for a POCI application if needed

www.miwidetrackers16.org



Dave Todd, Editor
Business Name
P.O. Box 601
Oxford, MI 48371



In God We Trust