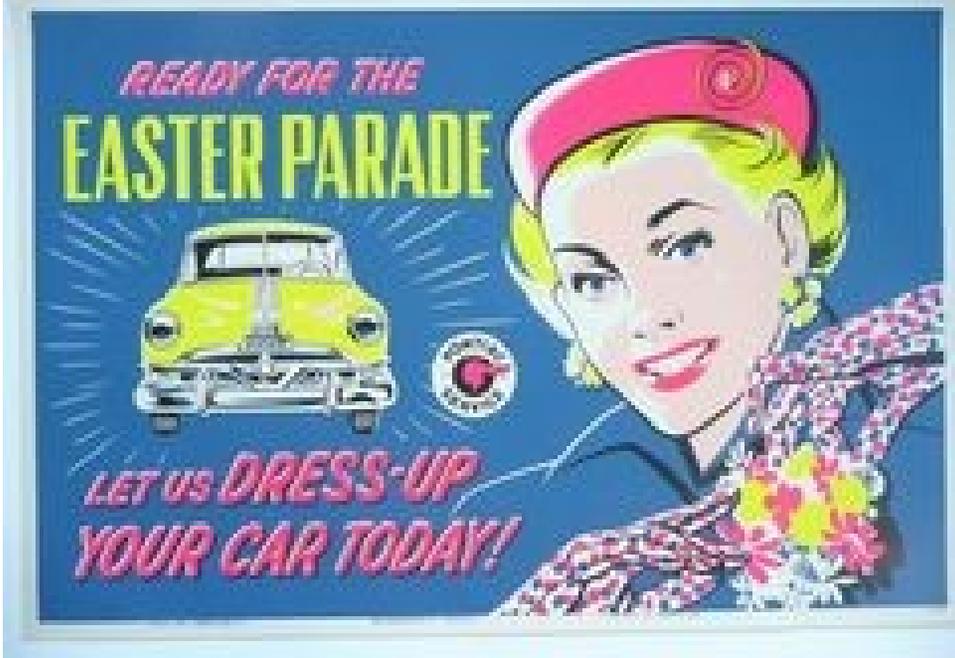




THE TRACKER

MAR 2024 APR



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN (P.2)
DUST-OFF FLIER (P.5)
GMC 637 V8 ENGINE (P.6)



MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS
CHAPTER 16 OF POCI

WWW.MIWIDETRACKERS16.ORG

Hello Widetrackers,

As of the writing of this article, Mother Nature has decided she wasn't quite ready to give winter up, she opted to give us an early spring snow storm. I think she just likes to remind us who is in charge of this planet. Like many of you I am ready for warmer temperatures and bountiful sunshine so with any luck she will cooperate.

Lisa and myself, as well as several of you, managed to get out to the Chrome and Ice show and the Detroit Autorama. We saw a lot of Pontiacs this year at both shows since Chrome and Ice was featuring the GTO. If you follow the Widetrackers Facebook page, you saw the pictures that myself and others took at these events. It was just what the Doctor ordered on cold winter days of being cooped up inside.

I hope everyone that has journeyed to warmer climates has returned safely and is ready for a wonderful summer full of car shows and cruises. I will be starting work on our event calendar so look for that in your email in the coming weeks.

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

With that being said, if you are out and about and receive fliers for shows or have information for cruises you think others might like, send them to me and I will include them in the event calendar.

At the March meeting we had a couple of new faces show up and the usual cast of characters which made for a nice evening. Of course there was lots of food for all to enjoy. So if you haven't been to a meeting or if it has been a while, come on out to a meeting and spend some time with your fellow Widetrackers for some great food and good conversation.

Just a quick side note, our annual Spring Dust off will be June 8 at Golling GMC Buick in Lake Orion. I urge you to come to the event with or without your vehicle to show support for our club. Also we will be needing stuff for raffle prizes so if you can help out that would be wonderful.



Respectfully,

Tim Mays

**CAR SHOW
CREED**

**I promise and swear,
I will be a good sport.**

**I won't whine or
complain if I don't win
an award.**

**I will always
remember that this is
supposed to be fun.**

**It's not life or death,
It's only a hobby.**

So help me God.

35TH ANNUAL SPRING DUST-OFF

2nd Year at2nd Year atNew LocationNew Location

Michigan Widetrackers

Chapter # 16 of the P. O. C. I.

35th ANNUAL SPRING DUST-OFF

Golling Buick GMC, 1491 Lapeer Road, Lake Orion, MI 48360

Saturday – June 8th, 2024

Pontiac – Oakland – GMC – Buick – Oldsmobile

Vehicles of all Ages

Featuring:

Award Plaques for Top 30 Vehicles and Best of Show Trophy

\$25 Driver Ticket prize every half hour

Swap Area, Vendor Displays, Car Corral, Food Available, (NO RAIN DATE)

Dash Plaques - Door Prizes – 50/50 Raffle – Chinese Raffle “Good Stuff”

Registration – Admission

Pre-Registered Vehicles: \$15
 Pre-Registered Vendor / Swap Space: \$20
 Day of Show Vehicle Registration: \$20
 Day of Show Vendor / Swap Space: \$30
 Car Corral: \$10
 Spectator Admission: \$4
 Jr. Cruisers (15 Years and Under): Free

Schedule of Events

Registration..... 8:00am - 12:00pm
 Vendor & Exhibit Setup 8:00am
 Spectator Gate Open 9:00am
 Voting Ends 1:00pm
 50/50 Drawing 2:15pm
 Other Raffle(s) Drawing(s) 2:20pm
 Awards Presentation 2:30pm

SHOW CONTACT: Dan Kane / 248-396-6848 / kanedanielx@gmail.comVENDOR CONTACT: Jim Larson / 248-877-1963 / l Larson1026@comcast.net

Pre-Registration Ends JUNE 3rd, 2024

Show Updates @ www.miwidetrackers16.org

Vehicle Year: _____ Make: Pontiac / Oakland / GMC/ Buick/ Oldsmobile (circle one) Model: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Swap Space(s) _____ # Corral Vehicle(s) _____ ** AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

I accept and assume full liability for any loss to me and /or my property.

I release the sponsors and their agents from such loss or injury and agree to provide my own insurance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make Checks Payable To: MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS Mail Form/ Check To: Clarice Humphrey, 4993 E. Harvard Ave.,
 Clarkston, MI 48348

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE

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By: Dennis Carol

When you think of large displacement naturally aspirated engines that came out of Detroit, most folks will think of the Chevy 454 LS6 big block engine, the Pontiac-Buick-Olds 455 V8s, the Ford 429 Cobra Jet, the Chrysler 440 and 426 Hemi. Some may even recall the Cadillac 472 and 500 engines. Most will never mention the GMC Twin Six 702 or the GMC 637, probably because they've never seen or heard of them.

Starting in 1959 and going thru 1974, GMC produced a wide range of their own unique V6 engines. These 60-degree engines ranged in displacement from in 305, 351, 401, and 478-cubic-inch (5.0, 5.8, 6.6, and 7.8 liters respectively), with considerable parts commonality among them. During the latter years of production, 379-and-432-cubic-inch (6.2 and 7.1 L) versions with enlarged crankshaft journals, were manufactured as well. The GMC 637 was essentially a 478 V6 with two more cylinders added on. This came out to exactly 637.002 cubic inches.

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE

The 637 produced 275 HP @ 2800 rpm and 600 lbs. ft. of torque @ 1600 rpm. The 637 was hardly dainty at 1,219 lbs., but it was considerably lighter than the Twin Six 702 it replaced, which tipped the scales at nearly



1,500 lbs. fully dressed.

Since the 637 shared the V's6 architecture's 60-degree vee angle, a less than optimal arrangement for a V8, a single balance shaft was used to make the engine smooth enough for truck use. The V8 also departed from its V6 sibling in its combustion chamber design, employing a flat deck and a pocketed piston crown, similar to diesel practice and a little like

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE

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The compression ratio was 7.5:1, while the air-fuel mixture was fed by a single Bendix-Stromberg WW 2-barrel carburetor.

The 637 was installed in heavy duty trucks and buses. The 637 was the largest-displacement production gasoline V8 ever made for highway trucks. The 637 shares the 478's 5.125 in × 3.86 in (130.2 mm × 98.0 mm) bore and stroke using a single camshaft. Spark plugs were located on the inboard side of the cylinder heads and were accessed from the top of the engine. This position allowed for shorter spark-plug wires and kept the spark plugs away from the hot exhaust manifolds, something which was emphasized in GMC's sales literature. It was also perceived as being easier to access for maintenance. Power was listed as 275 HP @ 2800 rpm: torque 600 lbs. ft. @ 1600 rpm. The engine used a single 2-barrel carburetor for fuel economy purposes, there was never a 4-bbl version. Production started in 1967 and went through 1972.

The 637's bore/stroke ratio is 1.33. This means that this is an over square engine, or a short-stroke engine. A square engine is when the bore/stroke ratio is 1:1.

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE



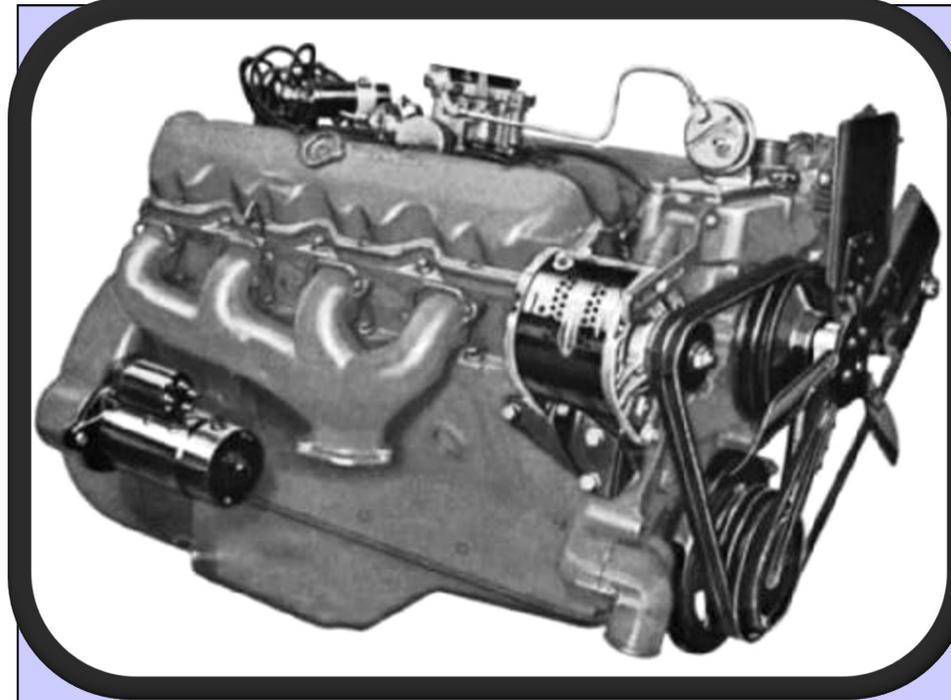
Above: A 305 V6 showing how the spark plugs are located next to the intake manifold for easier maintenance.

When the bore/stroke ratio is less than 1:1, it is an under square or long stroke engine. An over-square engine allows for more and/or larger valves in the head of the cylinder, higher possible rpm by lowering maximum piston speed, and lower crank stress due to the lower peak piston acceleration for the same engine (rotational) speed.

The reduced stroke length allows for a shorter cylinder and sometimes a shorter connecting rod, generally making oversquare engines less tall but wider than undersquare engines of similar engine displacement. GMC selected this ratio to reduce piston speed and minimize frictional losses.

The ultimate version of the 637 V8 was the DH637 twin-turbocharged diesel version, which used a pair of turbochargers (labeled no. 9 in the illustration below) feeding a common plenum chamber (no. 4).

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE

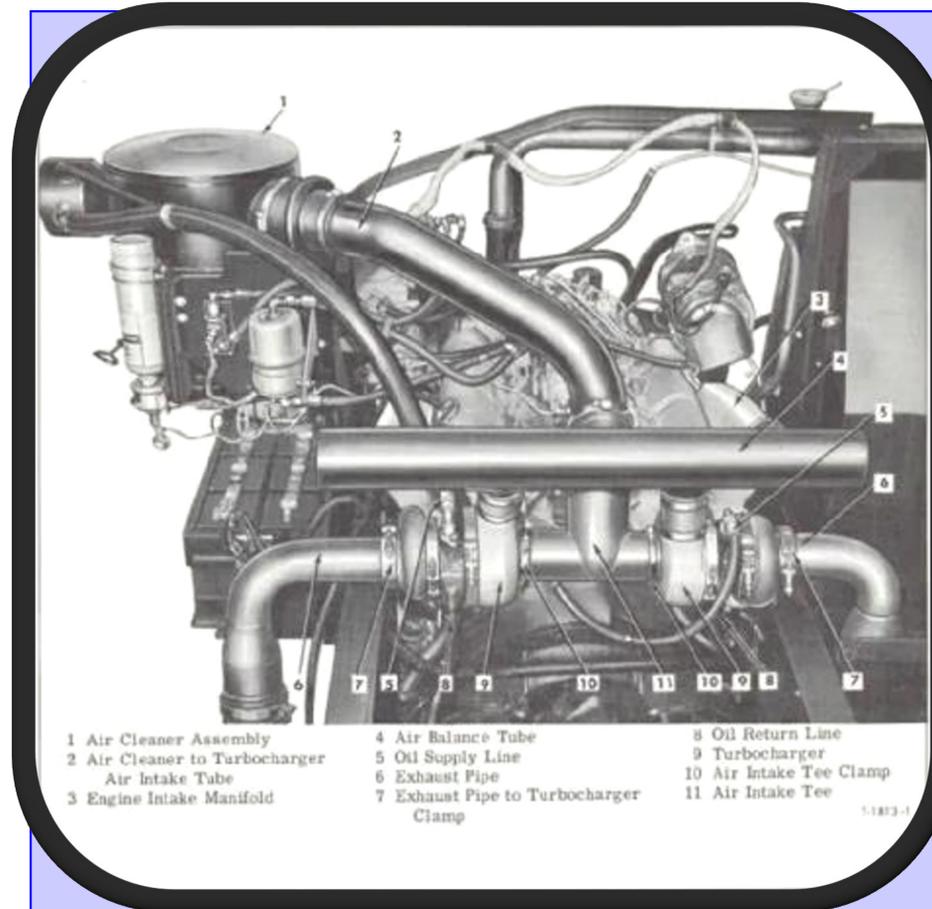


Output was a rated 220 gross hp at the governor-controlled maximum speed of 2800 rpm, with 458 lb.-ft of torque available at 2,000 rpm. This engine may have inspired Oldsmobile to create a diesel variant of there gasoline engine later in the 1970s.

Special thanks to Dennis Carol for assembling this story—Ed.

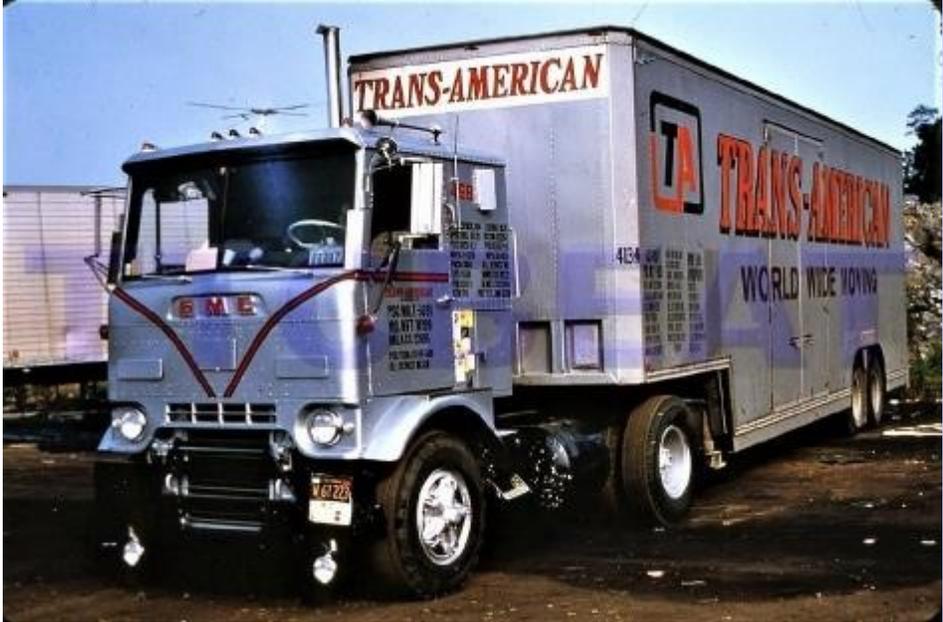
GMC 637 V8 ENGINE

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The DH637 Twin Turbo engine.

GMC 637 V8 ENGINE



Hello Widetrackers.

Work and other obligations took me away from *The Tracker* for a few issues. I want to thank Anna Maria Calianno for producing the November/December and January/February issues on short notice. She did a great job, and I hope the club appreciates the work she did on short notice.

Some of you may also have noticed that our website is missing from the internet. Not to fear...the wheels are in motion for it's restoration (in a few weeks) and replacement in the near term. Bob Klauka did a nice job creating the current site for us, but it seems we've gone as far as we can with the software it's built with. The new site will protect us from such difficulties in the future, and be easier for everyone to work with. Stay tuned.

As the wheel-less photo below shows, my Trans Am is in a state of renewal, or at least I hope it is. I'm hustling to get it ready for its first outing in May. Much work, enjoyment and frustration await in the next 45 days.

The 35th Annual Dust-Off flier is on page 5. Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend!



Dave

POC16Tracker@gmail.com

FOR SALE**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

FOR SALE:

1979 301 engine \$250 OBO

'67-69 Firebird/Camaro Used radiator shroud. Good condition. \$80. Electric Fan only...like new \$30.

Contact Arnold at 248-330-0209

Parts Wanted:

1969 Pontiac Grand Prix door panels manual windows, A/C setup from condenser to evaporator.

Bill Gupton

810-338-4196

wmgupton@gmail.com

1933 Pontiac Parts Wanted

1 Radiator - 1 pair of front fender marker lamps - ANY rumble seat components - Thanks!

Joe Tonietto - Tel: 248.761.9942

j.tonietto@gmail.com

For Sale

1933 Straight 8 engines including transmissions and one high compression head.

Robert_patchett@sbcglobal.net

810-721-8282 home 317-498-6126 cell

FOR SALE

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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:

1968/1969 GTO parts. Some chrome, cylinder heads, air conditioning parts (no condenser), convertible interior parts, quarter extension chrome, etc.

Also 1st and 2nd generation Firebird parts. Call for details.

Call Don Smith 248-709-6857

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 e-mail the tracker at:
poci16tracker@gmail.com with the details and photos. The ad will appear in the next available issue.



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE!

QUAKER STATE MOTOR OIL

Finest Easter Gift you can give your car!

DON'T RUN AWAY another dollar per quart of Quaker State Motor Oil, refined from 100% pure Pennsylvania grade crude oil. Cheaper in premium-quality Quaker State when you change from motor-oil to springtime-weight motor-oil—which should be right now! It is the finest motor oil, we believe, that is produced anywhere in the world. 27¢ per U. S. Quart including Federal Excise Tax.

QUAKER STATE OIL REFINING CORPORATION, OHIO CITY, PA. MEMBER PENNSYLVANIA GRADE CRUDE OIL ASSOCIATION

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)245-5401 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!



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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Starting with calendar year 2020, *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, Tim Mays, in writing at: TMAYS247@GMAIL.COM

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

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 Robin 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!

Contact Robyn Marsh

(810) 348-4619

horsesitter1@yahoo.com

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 \$11. **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

CLUB EVENTS

2nd Saturday of Every Month	WIDETRACKER'S CLUB MEETING 5:30pm	Golling Buick GMC, Lake Orion, MI
July 20th July 28th Sept 14th	GOLLING CAR SHOWS 2024 <i>Come out to support the dealer that supports your club!</i>	Miracle Field DT Lake Orion Golling Buick GMC
April 20th	LINGENFELTER COLLECTION SPRING OPEN HOUSE	Lingenfelter Collection Brighton, MI
April 28th	BLESSING OF THE RIDES	Holy Cross Lutheran Church Warren, MI
May 19th	SCOTT KOOL PRODUCTIONS	Ashley Furniture Lot Flint
June 6th	CRUISIN' DOWN SEYMOUR CAR SHOW 4-8PM	Seymour Lake Township Park Oxford Township, MI
June 8th	WIDETRACKER'S 35TH ANNUAL SPRING DUST-OFF	Golling Buick GMC, Lake Orion, MI
June 16th	EYES ON DESIGN	Ford House
August 16th and 17th	M1 CONCOURSE WOODWARD DREAM SHOW	M1 Concourse Pontiac, MI

CLUB CONTACTS

Michigan Widetrackers New Officers for 2024

President

Tim Mays
248-836- 8646
tmays247@gmail.com

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Director

Arnold Boersma
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arnoldgp99@aol.com

Director

Jerry Liske
248-421-2502
geraldliske@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Dave Todd
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POCI16Tracker@gmail.com

Clothing Sales

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horsesitter1@yahoo.com

Vice President

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donstates@att.net

Treasurer

Dan Kane
248-396-6848
dandan13@comcast.net

Director

Judy Vader
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jvader@centurytel.net

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clarice.humphrey@yahoo.com

Tracker Editors

Dave Todd
248-628-2958
POCI16Tracker@gmail.com

Nametags

Bill Coombe
586-293-0662
bcgrandmarquis@gmail.com



These great folks
make our club run!
Thank them when
you see them.



MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS



CHAPTER #16 of POCI

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Primary Member: _____ Birth Date: _____

Spouse/Associate Member: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ Cell: _____ - _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Children: _____

MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS MEMBERSHIP - www.michidtrackers16.org

Dues are \$20.00 per year due each May 1st. (If joining for the first time, dues will be pro-rated at \$1.70 per month)

Please complete and return this application along with payment made out to "Michigan Widetrackers":

MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS

4993 E. Harvard Ave

Clarkston, MI 48348

Attn: Membership

INDICATE: NEW MEMBER or RENEWAL; CASH or CHECK (Check # _____) Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date Paid: _____

New Member (ONE) Shirt, Available sizes: S / M / L / XL / 2XL / 3XL Shirt Size: _____

Please provide your Classic or Collector Vehicle information (if needed, use the other side):

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR
_____	_____	_____	_____

*Michigan Widetrackers Chapter #16 of POCI encourages POCI membership for all club members. Please visit their website (www.poci.org) to review "Why Join POCI?"

PONTIAC OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP - www.poci.org

"Why Join POCI?" POCI's full-color, monthly magazine *"Smoke Signals"*, which is devoted to Pontiac, Oakland, and GMC vehicles and their owner; access the newly updated website www.poci.org for a wealth of information; the **POCI Technical Advisor Program**; the **POCI Library**, a massive collection of Pontiac, Oakland and GMC literature and the **Annual POCI Convention** which rotates annually to various locations in the USA attracting members and cars from all over the world.

The POCI Membership application is available online; please visit their website (www.poci.org). Annual USA Membership: \$45.00; Canadian \$74; includes two free Associate Memberships (except E-memberships), including mailing our SMOKE SIGNALS monthly magazine.

Electronic membership (e-membership): \$25.00 per year (USA funds).

Payment may be made online with Credit Card or Pay Pal or make a Check or Money Order payable to "POCI".

Mail to: POCI World HQ, PO Box 68, Maple Plain, MN 55359 USA along with the POCI application.

For our records, please notify our Membership Coordinator when you receive your POCI#.

POCI #: _____ POCI# Renewal Date: _____



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

In God We Trust

