



Pontiacs of the Valley

July 2026 | Newsletter of the Valley of the Sun Pontiacs Club
Chapter #107, Pontiac Oakland Club International

Next club meeting is Sept. 15**

41st Annual Trans Am Nationals, Cops and Rodders this summer

Summer Time!

The next club meeting is scheduled for Sept 15th.

The 2026-2027 Board and Officers met on July 8, 2026.

Discussion topics included social events for the 2026-27 year, the BOPC event date for 2027, possible sponsorship for the Vegas drag races, and updates on the club participation in the Silver Auction and Good Guys show. Other topics discussed were planning for our other club activities like Pontiac Nights, Car Clinics, Annual Party, Pontiacs at the Strip, Midnight at the Oasis, Adopt-A-Highway, and other events. The Board Meeting minutes will be available on the club website.

The 2026-27 officers and Board members are:

President:	Paul Albinger
Vice-President:	David Hutchison*
Secretary:	Walter Buerkle*
Treasurer:	Mike Fleury
Board of Directors:	Bruce Almond, Frank Gostyla, Tom Knecht, Dave Koenig, Vinnie LaMacchia*, Tom Locke, Larry McCown, Tom Mohr, Mary Sundberg

* New officers or Board members

** The next club meeting is Sept 15th 2026. This is a one-off Tuesday meeting. Club meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month. See the VOSP website <http://www.valleysunpontiacs.com/about.php> for the meeting location, date and times.

Veep's Message

Hello, my name is David Hutchison. I am the 2026-27 VOSP Vice President. I want to use this space to give everyone a brief introduction.

But first, I want to thank our club's previous Vice President, Mark Neumann. Mark served many roles in the club and will continue to be active within the club as the Liaison to Tucson POCI Chapter & Western Regional POCI Rep. Thank you, Mark!



I grew up in Minneapolis, MN. I have always been a tinkerer. As a kid, it was bicycle and small appliance repair and service. As a teenager, it became motorcycles and cars. My first car was a 1969 Nova. I was a Midwest big city motorhead kid in the 70's and 80's rebuilding engines and lifting the rear end high enough to get those wide Mickey Thompson tires on.



I moved to Phoenix in the 80's and graduated from ASU in Computer Science. After graduation, I went to work for Honeywell Aerospace. I retired in 2024 after 33 years.

Along the way, in 2002 I bought my 1st (and so far, only) Pontiac. Our 1st son (of 3) was only 1 year old, but I told my wife I'd be done with the restoration in a year. 22 years later, after doing most of the work myself (excluding block/head and paint) I was finally done. If you are interested in seeing my GTO journey in pictures, here's a link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Pgn4ah3MKqOdMJiE95UF4g7JzCI-Oojw?usp=sharing>

I look forward to meeting many of the club members and joining everyone at the area club events. Looking forward to a great year with the Valley of the Sun Pontiacs Club.

David

Celebrating 100 years of excitement

Valley of the Sun, AZ Pontiac chapter members hit the road to Michigan for historic POCI convention

By Mark Neumann

Detroit has been the home of automobile manufacturing for decades, but there aren't many brands that can claim they were built in a city that bears their name.

We can.

From June 22-27, the Pontiac Oakland Club International hosted its 54th annual convention in the city where it all started: Pontiac, MI. It was the celebration of the 100th birthday of the Pontiac brand.

The town, with roots in building buggies because the area was covered with prime material like pine and oak trees, eventually embraced the automobile. The first Pontiac built there in 1926 was



the Series 6-27, priced at \$825 (in the convention's host hotel lobby, a 1926 Pontiac and the last Pontiac, a 2010 G6, were on display, left).

The week-long event was filled with parades, visits to the growing Pontiac Transportation Museum, POCI chapter awards, speakers, cruises down Woodward Avenue, and special tours, including the nearby GM

proving grounds where John DeLorean "built" the first GTO in 1964.

For the first time in decades, the two original Monkeemobiles (originally 1966 GTOs) designed by Dean Jeffries were on display (right) as part of a special section of the car show for star cars.



Valley of the Sun chapter members joined AZ chapter members in the celebration (one of our tables at the Chapter Night banquet, right). A number of our club members won car show awards – Eric and Sara Hankins, Tom Locke, Joel and Mona Hernandez, Tim and Kerrie Blatner, and Paul and Barb Albinger.

On display at a seminar was the last Fiero built – and the plant manager who was there that day was part of the event. A concept of a Fiero 2+2 was on display at the Pontiac museum (below)



A panel of Pontiac designers reminisced about working on designs during their studio days and working with DeLorean on the GTO, Firebird and other cars.

A parade honoring the 100th anniversary was held in downtown Pontiac – over 200 Pontiacs cruised through the streets to cheering residents.

It was a great event to honor a special

brand – the one that brings our members and our chapter together.

The 2027 convention will be held June 22-26 in Norman, Oklahoma. Registration and hotel reservations are now available at <https://www.poci.org/annual-convention>

- Valley of the Sun Pontiac chapter member Tom Locke's 1971 GTO on display at the popular vote show.



“Home for the Hundredth” POCI convention factoids:

Registrations: 899

Car show: popular vote: 251; points judging: 181

Club Adopt-A-Highway Program needs a new manager!

Hundreds of pounds of garbage have been collected by club members who have volunteered a day in the spring and fall to clean up a mile along the Apache Trail as part of the state's Adopt-A-Highway program.

After serving as trusty managers of the cleanup for many years, club members Tim and June Smith are ready to hand over the reins to a new leader.

If you enjoy doing your part to help keep Arizona clean, and working with other like-minded volunteers, let us know if you can take on this leadership role to organize our pickups twice a year. Trash pickers, safety vests, and the ADOT "blue bags" are provided for volunteers and the club treats all workers to lunch at Tortilla Flat afterwards!



Interested? Contact Mark Neumann at 602-653-5074 or markneumann16@gmail.com

For Sale

1970's era Pontiac 8-Track player. Will fit any GTO/Firebird/Grand Prix. Model 72FT41 Restored in April 2026 by The Radio Doctor in Phoenix. Some of the brackets included in the price. Price \$390.

1970's era Pontiac AM/FM Stereo Radio. Model 02 GFM1 Removed from a 1970 Grand Prix. Restored by The Radio Doctor in April. Price \$550. Contact: Michael Jewell at 602-916-3391; email: jewellmichael57@gmail.com



Original gas tank from 1972 Pontiac GTO, comes with straps. Asking \$100. Radiator from same car. Asking \$125. Both in good condition. Contact: Robert Mock at nashmetro57@aol.com



1967 Pontiac GTO Rear Bumpers (2). Plated 20 years ago. Some chrome blemishes. Fair driver quality. \$250 each david@hutchwareltd.com



Wanted

Looking for old, early issues of Smoke Signals.. 1970s-80s. Contact Mary Sundberg (garyandmary59@cox.net)

BOPC+GMC '26: Valley of the Sun Pontiac Winners

Class/Trophy	Winner	Car
Custom Pontiac/1st	Joel and Mona Hernandez	1951 Chieftain
Unrestored Pontiac/1 st	LeVi Boucher	1969 Catalina
Solstice/1 st	Phil Collins	2009 GXP
GTO (1964-65)/1 st	Bruce Almond	1965 GTO
GTO (1964-65)/2nd	Don Patterson	1965 GTO
GTO 1966-67/1st	Rick Cowley	1967 GTO
GTO/Judge 1968-69/1st	Patrick Fykes	1969 GTO
GTO/Judge 1970-74/1st	Bruce Brady	1970 Judge
GTO/Judge 1970-74/2nd	Don Patterson	1970 Judge
GTO 2004-06/2nd	Mark Neumann	2006 GTO
Firebird/TA 1967-69/1st	Pete Senese	1969 Firebird
Firebird/TA 1967-69/2nd	Brian Mattson	1969 Trans Am
Firebird/TA 1970-75/1st	Scott Moore	1970 Trans Am
Firebird/TA 1970-75/2nd	Corey Mattson	1971 Firebird
Firebird/TA 1976-78/1st	Sean Fowler	1978 Trans Am
Firebird/TA 1976-78/2nd	Marc Shutro	1978 Trans am
Firebird/TA 1979-81/1st	Alan Zangle	1979 Trans Am
Firebird/TA 1979-81/2nd	Philip Gelb	1980 Trans Am
Firebird/TA 1982-1992/2nd	Steve LeMans	1983 Firebird SE
50s Pontiacs/1st	Dave Bertram	1958 Bonneville
Big Pontiacs, 1965-69/2nd	Paul Waer	1966 Ventura
Big Pontiacs, 1970s/1st	Eric Hankins	1972 Grand Prix
Big Pontiacs. 1970s/2nd	Michael Lamberth	1977 CanAm
1980s and Newer/G6/G8/2nd	D Kevin Semenuk	2007 G6

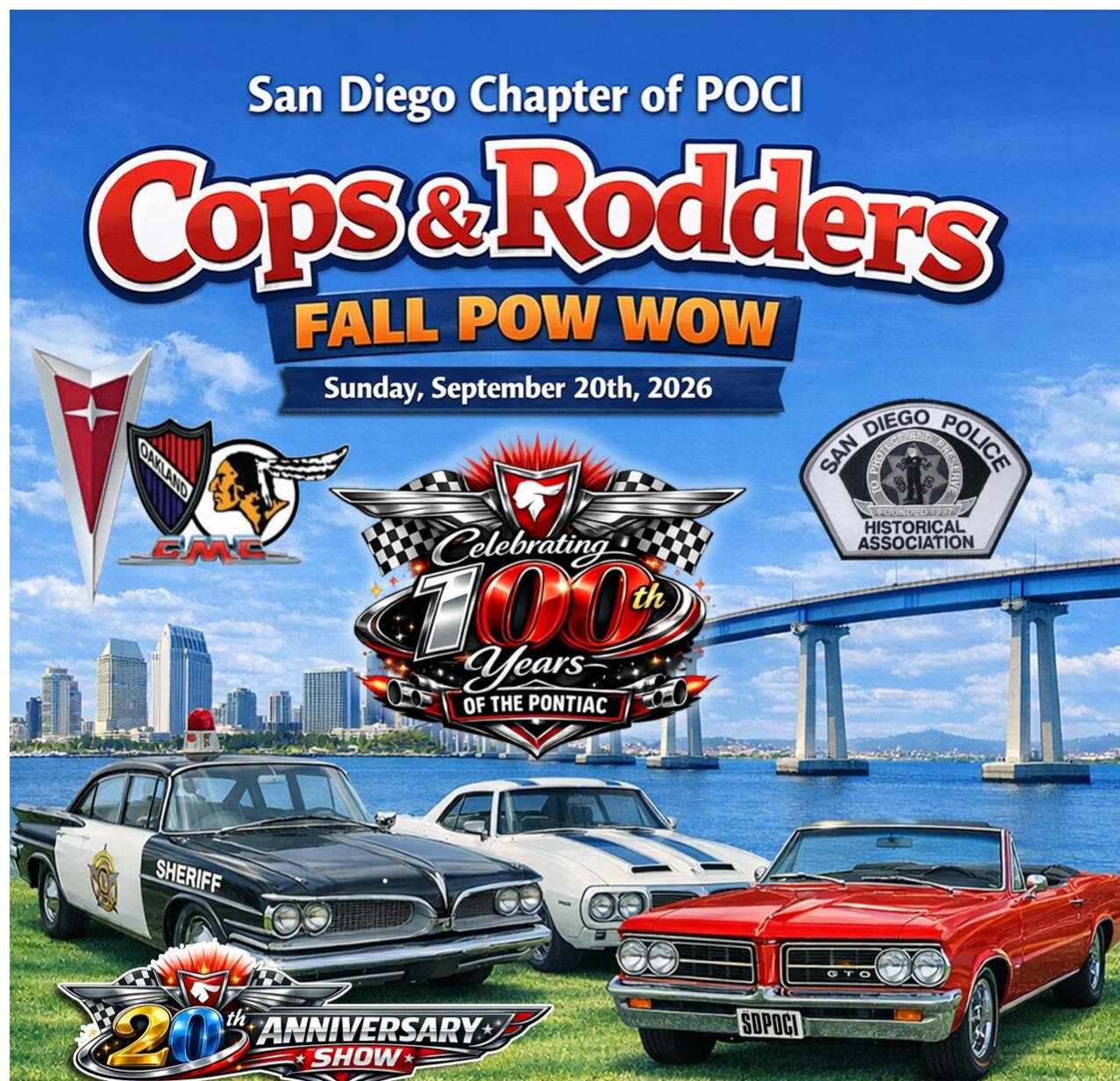
See our newest photo galleries of Valley of the Sun Pontiac club events in 2025-26 at

www.valleysunpontiacs.com/gallery.php

- BOPC+GMC Show// Club Holiday Party

- Cruise to Phil's Filling Station // AZ Chapter 45th Anniversary Party-Casa Grande

Thank you to our webmaster Scott Svenheim for his work this year in maintaining our website!



Sanctioned by the San Diego Association of Car Clubs

**JOIN THE SAN DIEGO PONTIAC CLUB & THE SAN DIEGO POLICE MUSEUM
SAN DIEGO EMBARCADERO NORTH SEAPORT VILLAGE
SET UP 7AM. SHOW 9 TO 2, ENTRY FEE: \$35.00**

Send to: Susan Dumas, PO Box 1221, Poway CA 92074.- Make checks payable to "SDPOCI"

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Year, Make, Model: _____ / _____ / _____
YEAR MAKE MODEL

Rain or Shine

41st Annual

Rain or Shine

TRANS AM NATIONALS

August 28-30, 2026

Held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Dayton/Fairborn, OH

ALL 1967-2002 FIREBIRD MODELS ARE WELCOME: SPRINT, H.O., ESPRIT, FORMULA, TRANS AM, S/E, GTA & FIREHAWKS



Photo taken by Jared Hamm from Firebird Central

Hosted by the Trans Am Club of America, Dayton Chapter, Inc.

Show website: <http://www.tanationals.org>

- First 450 entrants receive Dash Plaque, Hat Pin, Koozie & Pen
 - 548 Total entries in 2025
 - Appearances & seminars by GM/Pontiac Designers, Engineers, Executives & Historians
 - Vendors for Hats, Shirts, Car parts, Car care Items and MORE!!!!
 - Music, food & FUN!
 - Work-in-Progress/Driver class
 - Concours Classes 1967-2002
 - Judging - Fri, Sat. & Sun.
 - Mini-Nationals
 - 50/50 Drawing, Silent & Live auctions
- Proceeds go to A Special Wish Foundation, Inc.



Pre-Entry Fee \$67.00 & \$69.00 (Includes T-Shirt & Hat Pin)* ...MUST be postmarked by 7/31/2026

Weekend of Show \$67.00 (No T-Shirt)

***\$67.00 Pre-Entry fee covers T-shirt sizes S to XL, \$69.00 Pre-Entry fee covers T-shirt sizes 2XL to 5XL**

2026 Trans Am Nationals Car Show Registration Form

Mail Check or Money Order payable to: Trans Am Club of America - Cheryl Minor, 8909 Tripoli Dr. Cincinnati, OH 45251
or register online at <https://tanationals.org/registration>

Name: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Vehicle Year: _____ Color: _____ Model: _____ Club Affiliation: _____

Car License #: _____ Trailer License #: _____ FREE T-shirt (check one) \$67 S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ \$ _____

Do Not Judge (optional for the 32 judged classes) (check box for DNJ) ☐ \$69 2X ☐ 3X ☐ 4X ☐ 5X ☐ \$ _____

Work In Progress/Driver Class (separate non-judged) (check box for WIP) ☐ \$ _____

Extra Participant T-shirts \$20.00 each sizes: S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ \$ _____

\$22.00 each sizes: 2XL ☐ 3XL ☐ 4XL ☐ 5XL ☐ \$ _____

Enter total from Tipp City registration form: \$ _____

Trans Am Club of America, Dayton Chapter, Inc., DoubleTree, State of Ohio and the City of Fairborn are not responsible for accidents or loss as a result of this car show and/or associated events & activities.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

SIGNATURE (required): _____

U.S. Currency Only, Please

Last Revised 10/25



Welcome new Valley of the Sun Pontiacs members in 2025-2026!

Jordan Stastny	Harry Johnson	Rod Winegarner	Harold Legreid
Rick Gamboa	Michelle McAdams	Edward Gurski	Kevin Hopstaken
Phil Pelura	David Tewksbury	Michael Slone	Ron Kitowski
Don Maggiore	Eric Hankins	Michael DiGirolamo	Jeff Miller
Shano Sancibrian	George Chapes	Curt Newman	D'Arcy Wells
Tim Meyer	Calvin Johnson	Olivia Templeton	John Anderson
Dallas Berger	Nick Matrich	Gary Blythe	Melissa Martin
Randy Klinckhardt	Anthony Spinozza	Levi Boucher	Ian Parr
Chris Randall	Brad Benson	Emmanuel Furconi	David Green Douglas
Hanson	Jay McClatchey	Doug Payne	Fred Reese
Harry Roers	Don Weston	Bryan Greene	Mark DelanoRon
Johnson	Joe Ruize	Mike Metcalfe	Andy Fischer
Howard Schutter	Gehle, Greg		

(newest members in red)



**It's the 100th Anniversary of Pontiac in
2026...check out these remaining national
events to celebrate!**

August 28-30: 41st Annual Trans Am Nationals, Fairborn, OH. (Info: email tanationals@tanationals.org)

November 21-22: Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals, Donald E. Stevens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL (Info: <https://www.mcacn.com/>)



AWARD WINNING
SAN DIEGO PONTIAC
OAKLAND CLUB INT'L



May 2026

JOIN THE PONTIAC OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL (POCI)

We Invite You To Join!

Keeping The Pontiac Legacy Alive...

Formed in 1972 by a small group of enthusiasts who wanted to pool as much Pontiac and Oakland information as was possible, the first convention was held the following year in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Since then, POCI chapters have formed all over the country and POCI Conventions have been held every year in a variety of locations. The events include a car show, tech seminars, presentations, drag racing and a great swap meet. GMC trucks were included in 1998, due to their close relation to Pontiac.

The club's magazine, *Smoke Signals*, also started in 1972 and has evolved into a world-class, award-winning monthly that continues to raise the bar for non-commercial publications. *Smoke Signals* was redesigned in 2006 and again in 2013. Today, it is a 92 to 100-page, full-color publication printed on heavyweight paper and also comes in digital form.

We are very excited with the future of the Pontiac hobby and we invite you to join POCI and start receiving *Smoke Signals*. Please note that members get access to download our digital editions that go all the way back to 2006.

We welcome anyone and everyone with an interest in Pontiacs, Oaklands and GMCs of any age or type to join us. Just use the membership form provided and get in on the action.

Whether you have an early Pontiac, a muscle-era GTO or Firebird, a full-sized Wide Tracker or late-model Trans Am, Solstice, or G8, we have a place for you and your car.

We thank you for your time and look forward to seeing you at a POCI event soon!

Annual Membership Fees

Worldwide Electronic-Membership

(downloadable version of Smoke Signals, no magazine is mailed): \$25

United States Membership: \$45

Outside of U.S. Membership: \$74

All memberships except E-memberships come with two free associate memberships. Associate members are spouse/significant other and/or a dependent child, 19 years old or younger living with you.

Join Online at www.poci.org -Visa, Mastercard, Discover accepted



Call the Club Office for more information
(763) 479-2111

Web Site: www.poci.org
Facebook: Pontiac Oakland Club
E-Mail: pociworldhq@aol.com



Officers and Board of Directors, 2026-27

President:	Paul Albinger
Vice-President:	David Hutchison
Secretary:	Walter Buerkle
Treasurer:	Mike Fleury

Board of Directors: Bruce Almond, Frank Gostyla, Tom Knecht,
Dave Koenig, Vinnie LaMacchia, Tom Locke,
Larry McCown, Tom Mohr, Mary Sundberg

Webmaster: Scott Svenheim www.valleysunpontiacs.com

Mark Neumann: Liaison to Tucson POCI Chapter & Western Regional POCI Rep:
David Hutchison: *Pontiacs of the Valley* newsletter editor:
Facebook: Valley of the Sun Pontiacs