



# THE YANKEE NEWS

## JULY 2021



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF OF THE YANKEE CHAPTER POCI

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## *It's Show Time!*

# *2021 POCI National Convention*

## *Hosted By The Yankee Chapter*

**WELCOME TO MOHEGAN SUN  
FOR WICKED FUN IN '21!**

The Yankee Chapter of POCI and the Mohegan Sun Hotel and Casino look forward to welcoming you to the 49th Annual POCI Convention in Uncasville, Connecticut, July 11-15, 2021



# HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY AMERICA!



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello Fellow Yankee Chapter Members,

T-Minus 10 day's and counting I can't believe the convention is almost upon us. I will be holding a club/committee meeting on July 11th at 12pm in Ballroom A at the Registration area. Hoping you can attend.

Thanks,  
Ron Senesi  
Yankee Chapter

## VICE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Happy July 4th! Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday weekend as we celebrate the birth of our nation. We have so much going on as we enter the second half of 2021. It's great to see lots of car shows and cruise nights taking place. We are very much looking forward to a successful National Convention at Mohegan Sun. It's going to be awesome. Please read our Convention Corner article below by Merle Green. It contains valuable information about this years event. There are a number of local shows scheduled in August and September. You also can view upcoming shows on our website, [www.yankeepoci.org](http://www.yankeepoci.org). Please visit often as we are constantly updating.

Regards,  
Andy Epstein  
Vice President  
Newsletter Editor  
Digital Media Manager



# Yankee Chapter Club Meeting on June 13th

Over 25 members and guests in attendance at our June 13 meeting hosted by Janice and Merle Green. Lots to discuss. We started with club business and then moved to all aspects of the 2021 POCI Convention. Wrapped up with a beautiful birthday party for Merle with his entire family! Big **THANK YOU** to Janice and Merle Green for today's activities.







*Happy Birthday Merle!*



The Green family celebrating Merle's special day





# CONVENTION CORNER

## MERLE GREEN JR

On behalf of the Yankee Chapter POCI, Ron Senesi and Merle Green, as convention co-chairmen, would like to welcome you to the 49th Annual POCI Convention, Wicked Fun In '21. The Yankee Chapter was chartered in 1982, and this will be the third convention our chapter has hosted.

The Mohegan Sun Casino is a wonderful venue for this annual convention with a very large convention center, banquet halls, meeting rooms, and 49 restaurants from casual to fine dining. The Yankee Chapter has been working very hard in these trying times to bring the 49th convention here to New England.

By the time you are reading this in late June, the convention will be less than two weeks away. Hopefully everyone has registered and returned their completed activity sheet. This will be the final update for Wicked Fun in 21, so we want to cover all the latest changes and updates. Probably the most important information is the current status of Covid 19 restrictions that affect Mohegan Sun. As of May 19th most of the complex will be open, and face masks will not be required for fully vaccinated persons anywhere on the property. However, upon entering the hotel and casino, your temperature will be taken remotely, so everyone must enter through designated entrances. The convention center will be open to its full capacity, so we can accommodate about 200 cars inside, and we should be able to charge admission for the general public to view the cars in the convention center on Wednesday afternoon and on Thursday. We still have not received updated guidelines on banquet seating.

For everyone's viewing pleasure, in addition to the **Banshee**, we have confirmed some significant display cars. At the head of the list is the **Monkeemobile** which needs no further introduction. Accompanying the Monkeemobile is the **Red Baron** which is a model T roadster with a WWI motif and which is powered by a Pontiac OHC 6 engine. The car was inspired by a Monogram model designed by Tom Daniel and released in 1967. The full size car was built by Chuck Miller at Styline Customs in 1969. There will be two drag race cars, both with a native American connections, attending: **The Roadrunner**, a 1960 Pontiac Catalina, and a **Knafel Pontiac Tin Indian**, the 1966 Pontiac GTO. Additionally, there will be a few of the cars that attended the first convention hosted by the Yankee Chapter in 1987. Also we will have a restored, real **1967 Ram Air GTO** with a special engine, built with the first redesigned ram air block. You may have noticed some changes when you received your activity sign up booklet. Two of our original seminar speakers had to cancel, but we were fortunate that John Kramen from Mecum Auctions age collector car market and give you a look at what happens inside auctions. We were unable to coordinate the logistics for the Road Warriors cruise and the Oakland breakfast tour, so they have been canceled. We also made an unfortunate error in the activity booklet under airport information. Mohegan Sun does not presently operate a shuttle from T. F. Green airport to the casino. We are working with the casino to find some reasonably priced options to get to the casino from T. F. Green airport.



Because Mohegan Sun Hotel and Convention Center is such a large complex, we are initiating a welcome lane that will make your arrival easier. After taking exit 9 from Interstate 395 follow the signs to Mohegan Sun. This will put you on Mohegan Sun Boulevard. At the first traffic light go straight ahead to stay on Mohegan Sun Boulevard. You will pass the casino complex on the right. At the next traffic light go straight ahead and follow the signs to our welcome tent in the winter parking lot. At the welcome tent we will have people who will direct you to temporary parking while you register for your room and pick up your registration materials for the convention. This should make it easier for everyone to get checked in, especially those with trailers.

As of the end of May the buffet and valet parking are still closed. Please check the Mohegan Sun website for the latest restrictions on restaurants and shops. We are still waiting for information to set definite times for the Submarine and Lighthouse tours. The club office will send email blasts with updates as circumstances change. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to keep the convention running smoothly.

## ***Display Cars at this years POCI Convention***



**Monkeemobile**



**1967 Ram Air GTO**



**1960 Catalina Road Runner**



**Tin Indian**



**Red Baron**



**Banshee**



# Car Of The Month - July 2021

For his entire life, club member John Cooley has had Pontiacs as primary transportation. He bought his first new Pontiac at age 16. His association with the Yankee chapter goes back to 1985. Currently he owns 6 classic Pontiacs. John spent over 25 years as Salesman, Administrator, Manager of various local Pontiac dealerships and was recognized as Pontiac Master Sales Guild President for several years. He also garnered many Pontiac and GM sales awards. This is his 1979 Trans Am which John purchased in 1999 and has only 339 miles on the odometer. Car was delivered new from Tower Pontiac Newton Highlands MA. A well optioned vehicle, some of the features include a TA 6.6 Litre 400 engine, 4 speed, t-tops, WS6 package, 4 wheel disc brakes, a/c, tilt, added acoustical insulation, power antenna, am/fm cassette stereo, power windows and locks, custom trim, hood decal and more! Color is a stunning Platinum metallic with black interior and charcoal graphics. At the corners are 15X8 Cast Aluminum Wheels. John has all the original docs including the window sticker. He says it still smells new inside and is kept under cover and garaged most of the time except for few times per year! The prior owner bought the car to save as a collectible from an era that was quickly fading. At first John considered using this Trans Am as a summer driver....but they are only new once and this T/A still looks showroom.





# Blast From The Past

Our Car of the Month was originally purchased at Tower Pontiac on Needham Street in Newton. Club member John Cooley provided this Grand Opening ad below. Tower is now a Michaels craft store but you don't have to look very hard to see the remains of a once proud Pontiac dealership. Interestingly this roadway on the Newton/Needham line was a mini *Auto Mile* of sorts with the infamous Berejik Oldsmobile, longtime Muzi Ford dealership and Needham Motors (Studebaker) within a few miles of each other. I'm certain we have club members who could name a few more dealerships on this 2 lane stretch.



**ANNOUNCING  
TOWER PONTIAC—GMC TRUCK  
GRAND OPENING!**



**AN EVEN BETTER REASON  
FOR BUYING PONTIAC.**

**A GREAT NEW PONTIAC DEALERSHIP!** It's our grand opening. And we'd like you to celebrate with us. Because after months of preparation, we've opened our doors to serve you the best way we know how.

**WITH GREAT PEOPLE!** You'll meet our friendly, well-trained staff. They'll see you get treated right. And they'll be sure you get a great deal on a new or used Pontiac.

**WITH GREAT SERVICE!** You'll see our modern service facilities, designed to keep your car in great shape. And you'll meet our qualified service technicians.

**AND A GREAT NEW LINE OF PONTIACS!** Best of all, you'll see all the great new 1979 Pontiacs. Beautiful Bonneville. Classic Grand Prix. Fiery Firebird. Luxurious LeMans. And sporty Sunbird. All attractively priced and ready to roll. Now you've got an even better reason to go Pontiac. So let's celebrate!

**GRAND OPENING AT  
TOWER PONTIAC—GMC TRUCK**  
201 NEEDHAM ST., NEWTON 965-6000  
THE 1979 PONTIACS  OUR BEST GET BETTER



## The Chateau

As a follow up to last months picture of Pontiacs at the Chateau Restaurant, it was brought to my attention that the 1961 Bonneville Vista in this vintage photo was actually owned by the dad of club member Charlie Egiros. Color is Shelltone Ivory with blue tri-tone interior.

Charlie tells me that it was purchased new off the showroom floor at Wheaton Pontiac in Belmont. Options included Power steering, power brakes, AM Radio w/rear speaker and Soft Ray glass. Under the hood was a 303 hp 389 engine with 4 bbl carb and Hydro-matic transmission.



# Vendor Spotlight

George Disque is the owner of **Showboards By George**. He has been a Yankee Chapter club member for many years and is affiliated with several other Pontiac related chapters in the area.

**YN:** How long have you been in business and how did you get started?

**GD:** I have been in business since 2014. I started by making a showboard for my '66 GTO and then began advertising my services.

**YN:** What's your work background and club affiliations?

**GD:** My full time career was with a Navy Contractor as an Electronic Systems Engineer. My car club affiliations include Yankee POCI, Six Nations POCI, Pioneer Valley GTO and the Electric City GTO.

**YN:** What products do you offer?

**GD:** I design and produce display boards (showboards) for owners of collectible vehicles - cars, trucks, boats, trailers, etc...

**YN:** What are the price ranges?

**GD:** An 18" x 24" is \$200, 24" x 36" is \$285, plus packing and shipping charges.

**YN:** How does one start the process of getting a display board?

**GD:** Contact me at 413-221-6450 or [showboardsbygeorge@gmail.com](mailto:showboardsbygeorge@gmail.com). Email me pictures and info on the vehicle. I will then generate a design of the showboard for customer to review. When approved and payment is sent, I make and ship the showboard.

**Pontiac 1974 TRANS AM SD-455**

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- Turbo 400 Hydramatic Transmission
- RTS Suspension
- Saf-T-Trac RearEnd
- Gold Award Survivor Class 2006 POCI Nationals

Cover car Muscle Car Classics Feb 1992  
Featured Article Guide to Muscle Cars Feb 1996  
Published in Hot Cars "Encyclopedia World History of Cars"

Owner: Don Roback, Arcadia, CA SCC POCI Member

**1965 Pontiac GTO Hardtop**

- Built 1<sup>st</sup> Week of February 1965 in Pontiac, Michigan
- Code Correct 389 ci Engine Bored .040 Over, **CRANE** 068 Cam
- Correct '65 Tri-Power Intake & Carburetors
  - (Originally a Factory 4-Barrel)
- **HEDMAN HEDDERS** **FLOWMASTER** HEI Distributor **MSD** Ignition
- M-20 Wide Ratio Muncie 4-Speed Transmission & Center Console
- 3:23 Safe-T-Track Differential
- Added Power Steering; No Power Brakes (Drum)
- Added Sway Bars Front and Rear, with Boxed Control Arms
- Correct Rally I Wheels with Redline Tires (14's in Front; 15's in Rear), Center Caps and Trim Rings
- Factory Correct Mayfair Maize Yellow Paint, with Hand Done Black Pinstripe, with Correct Black Interior
- All Original Sheet Metal- Body Panels, Door Skins, Floors, Wheel Wells and Trunk
- This Car was Cast in the HBO Movie "**Muhammad Ali's Greatest Fight**" (2012-13)

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





*We're going to The Show!  
P.O.C.I. National Convention  
Mohegan Sun Casino and Resort, Uncasville, CT  
July 11-15, 2021  
Hosted by the Yankee Chapter*

***Get Your Yankee Chapter Gear On!***

(Click To Enter Store)

**Yankee POCI Club Store**





## Our Leadership Team Consists Of The Following Dedicated Members:

**President:** Ron Senesi (978) 503-8057

**VP, Newsletter, Website:** Andy Epstein (781) 956-1438

**Treasurer:** Ann Marie Mandarano (617) 719-1720

**Secretary:** Paul Bertrand (617) 699-0121

### Board of Directors:

Mitch Gage (774) 696-6845

Merle Green (978) 973-2148

Dave Kantarges (617) 947-7322

Don Parlee (781) 789-0319

Matt Morana (508) 335-8323



**Please visit our website at [www.yankeepoci.org](http://www.yankeepoci.org)**

For Upcoming Events, Membership Info, Club Sponsors and more.

**Email us at [yankeepociwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:yankeepociwebmaster@gmail.com)**

For questions and comments about Yankee POCI.

***The Yankee Chapter can also be found at:***





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