



Award Winning

THE YANKEE NEWS

MARCH 2025



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE YANKEE CHAPTER POCI

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



People Parts and Pow-wows!

WE DRIVE IN '25!!!!!!!

Our first 2 events overlap! (kind of.) First I thought to myself, "oh no!" But it is a PERFECT opportunity to COMBINE these events...Before we get

to that, let's recap what YOU need to do at this point.....Get your classic ready, or have the service done on your everyday car. It does not matter what you drive, what matters is we enjoy this as a club!

There are 4 events on the program. PVGTO Show in Springfield MA, POCI Convention in Louisville KY, Ames Tri-Power Nats in Norwalk, OH and the Adirondack Nationals in Lake George NY. Any thoughts and questions, please bring up at our March 9 meeting at Tucks Trucks.

Respectfully

Mike Green

President Yankee Pontiac - Oakland - GMC

NEWSLETTER EDITORS MESSAGE



Yankee Chapter Club Members,

We held our monthly meeting via Zoom on Feb 9 and it was a good thing we did as the area was blanketed with 5-8" of snow.

Lots to go over including our upcoming calendar of events.

We are also in process of membership renewal. An email went out to members who are past due to renew by the end of this month. Please send payment soon. We accept check or PayPal. See application form on the next page. On another note, please be sure to read our Car of the Month feature. A wonderful story about Joe Esposito and his '62 Star Chief. The car is now under the stewardship of club member Tom Tupka.

Regards,

Andrew Epstein

Newsletter Editor

Digital Media Manager

Time to Renew Your Membership to the Yankee Chapter POCI

An email was sent out last month to over 70 members as a reminder to renew your club membership.

Please send dues payment soon. We accept check or PayPal. See instructions below.

Lots planned for 2025 and we want you to be a part of all the Pontiac excitement.

Click [HERE](#) to access and print form online.



Pontiac-Oakland Club International

YANKEE CHAPTER

2025 MEMBER RENEWAL

Annual Dues: \$20.00 1yr; \$38.00 2yrs; \$55.00 3yrs (includes all family members)

Take advantage of our new discounted rates.

\$20 for 1 year

\$38 for 2 years

\$55 for 3 years

(Membership is due by March 31st and runs January thru December)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I would like to receive the monthly newsletter by: ☐ US Mail ☐ E-mail (Recommended)

Car Year/Make/Model/Color: (A vehicle is not necessary to join)

Referring Club Member: _____

POCI Membership Number: _____

PayPal Payments can now be made to: YankeePociDues@gmail.com

NOTE: If using PayPal, please include your member information (Name, Address, Email, Phone, Cars owned, Referring Club Member and POCI Member # (if you have one) in the Notes section.

OR Checks made Payable to: Yankee Chapter POCI and should be mailed to: Ann Marie Mandarano, Yankee Chapter Treasurer, 145 Allston Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4522



February 9, 2025 - Meeting Minutes

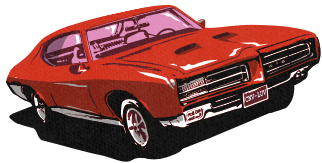
Respectfully Submitted By Kara Davidson, Club Secretary



We held our February meeting via Zoom and went over several important items as we prepare for the 2025 show season.

- 2:07 PM - Meeting started by Club President Mike Green with Pledge of Allegiance.
- 20 Members in attendance on Zoom call.
- Happy Super Bowl Sunday everyone!
- Club is in process of our annual membership renewal.
- We have 156 members, 104 have renewed for 2025. Email went out to those yet to renew.
- Went over upcoming events specifically shows on June 8 and our Dust-Off on May 18.
- June 8 - PVGTO Show in Springfield, MA. Meet at Ludlow rest stop on Mass Pike and caravan to show at 7:30 am. 8 members confirmed so far are going.
- June 8 - POCI Convention in Louisville, KY.
- Some members will attend PVGTO Show then head to POCI Convention afterwards.
- Our Annual Dust-Off will take place Sunday May 18, 10-2 pm at Tucks Trucks Hudson, MA.
- BSAAC Show at Endicott Estates in Dedham, MA takes place July 13.
- Club Car Show to take place August 8 in Pepperell. Proceeds benefit St Judes. Details to follow.
- Pontiac Memories...Everyone contributed a fond Pontiac memory. Great stories shared by all.
- 2:53 PM - Meeting adjourned.

Next Club Meeting - Sunday March 9 @ 2 pm



Tucks Trucks
244 Washington Street
Hudson, MA
Click [HERE](#) for Directions



2025 DUSTOFF

SUNDAY MAY 18 10 - 2



TUCK'S
TRUCKS
GMC

TucksTucksGMC.com

244 Washington Street
Hudson, MA

CAR OF THE MONTH

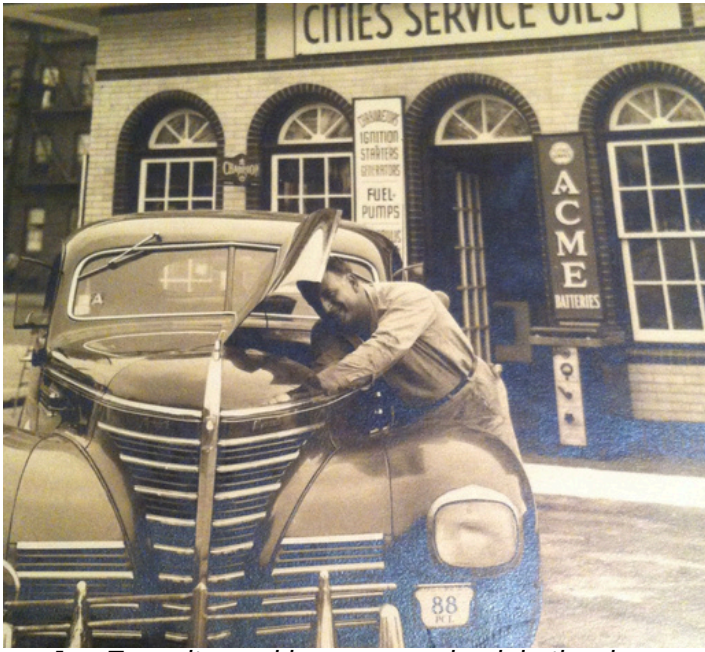
Andrew Epstein, Newsletter Editor

Joseph Esposito was born in 1906. He became a mechanic at a very young age and wrenched on Model T's when they were new. Joe found gainful employment over the decades at several dealerships and service stations throughout Brooklyn New York. He had quite a reputation as an expert mechanic rebuilding engines and transmissions in addition all other automotive repairs.

Joe knew about servicing all makes and models. Fast forward to April 1962, he went out to purchase a new car. He's had all types of vehicles over the years but had his eyes set on the *new* for '62 Pontiacs. Interestingly, Joe had never owned a Pontiac. He drove down to Rogers Pontiac at 60th and Fort Hamilton Parkway in Brooklyn. Rogers was an established Pontiac and Studebaker dealership and one of the largest in the area. Joe had initial interest in the Bonneville but because it wasn't available in a sedan post body, he went with the Star Chief. The post was an important feature for Joe as he felt it added rigidity to the body and was thus safer in case of an accident or rollover. Focusing on the Star Chief, Joe knew exactly what he wanted and placed the order. Caravan Gold exterior and bench seat interior, 389 engine with the economical 2 bbl carb and 4 speed Super-Hydromatic transmission. Not much else except the AM radio and 14" whitewall tires with hubcaps. The car came without seatbelts and without power anything. Joe took possession 8 weeks later when his car arrived at the dealership from the nearby Linden NJ plant. Joe babied that car. He kept it at a nearby garage so it was protected from bad weather and he only drove it on weekends, holidays and family trips. It was a wonderful car that his kids Marilyn and Eddie fondly remember to this day. Sadly, Joe passed away in 1971 and his beloved Star Chief was given to his son Eddie with only 13k miles on the odometer. Eddie maintained stewardship until 2018. He did a lot of work on the car to keep it road worthy. To Eddie, it was more than a car, it was a remembrance of his dear father. In 2015 it became difficult to keep up with servicing the Star Chief and he and his sister Marilyn begrudgingly began to seek out a good home for it. Enter Yankee Chapter member Marty Covais who lives in nearby Long Island and owns a 1962 Catalina which he inherited from his father in 1975. Marty has a soft spot for any '62 Pontiac full size so he took possession of the Esposito's Star Chief. Eddie said it was like giving up a child when he handed over the keys but knew it was going to a good home. After a few days, Marty realized that he was unable to properly store the car but he was able to find the perfect home and the Star Chief was sent to Club member Tom Tupka. In an interesting twist of fate, Tom had to sell his own 1962 4 door Star Chief in 1970 when he went into the Army. It was a move Tom regretted for almost 50 years. He was thrilled to acquire this very original car. Tom takes the Star Chief to shows all over the northeast. Although there's been some modifications, the car is amazingly original. I think Joe would be very pleased to know that his prized Star Chief is being taken care of and enjoyed by the Tupka family and others they meet on the road. I would like to thank Marilyn Esposito and Eddie Esposito for sharing this wonderful story of their father's car.

(See photo's next page.)

CAR OF THE MONTH (Continued)



*Joe Esposito working on a car back in the day.
Joe was an accomplished mechanic.*



*Rogers Pontiac-Studebaker in Brooklyn, NY
where Joe purchased his new 1962 Star Chief.*



*This 1962 Star Chief is our Car of the Month!
Now owned by Club member Tom Tupka.*



*Tom and his son Frank go to car shows all
over the northeast. Frank owns a 1964 Catalina.*



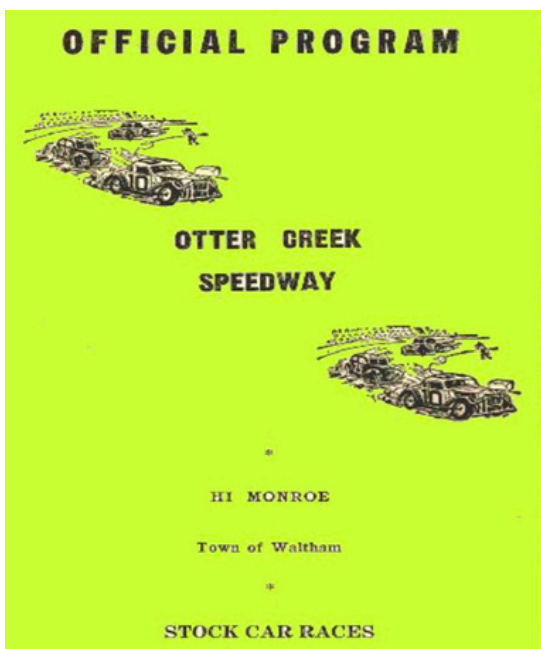


Otter Creek Speedway - Vergennes Vermont

Thanks to club member Al Fini for recommending this story on the Otter Creek Speedway. Al was a racer from western MA who had success in the mid to late 60's on the oval tracks of Malta and Riverside. Here's a great shot of a 1962 Catalina wagon that was used as the pace car for the Otter Creek Speedway. If you look closely, you'll see a 1962 convertible and a 1960 sedan. This particular pace car was supplied by Vergennes Pontiac.

Otter Creek was briefly a NASCAR sanctioned track that opened in 1961. "Hi Monroe" was the owner of the track and the farmland on which it was built on. The track closed in 1971.



Photos: Bob Mackey





Upcoming Events



- **Mar 9:** Club Meeting at 2pm. Tucks Trucks 244 Washington Str Hudson, MA
- **Apr 13:** Club Meeting at 2 pm. Judy and Jim May's, 68 Bond Rd Charlton, MA
- **May 18:** Club Dust-Off, 10-2 pm, Tucks Trucks 244 Washington Str, Hudson, MA
- **Jun 8:** PVGTO Show & Club Meeting, 9-2 pm, 440 Tiffany Str, Springfield, MA 
- **Jun 8:** POCI Convention, Louisville, KY (June 8-12) 
- **Jun 8:** Bay State Motor Fest, Cushing Park Framingham, MA
- **Jul 13:** BSAAC Show & Club Meeting at Endicott Estates Dedham, MA

Check Out the Club Calendar section of our website for all club events and shows.

www.yankeepoci.org

Join Us As We Hit The Road!



PVGTOA Show
Springfield, MA
June 8

Adirondack Nationals
Lake George, NY
September 4-7

POCI Convention
Louisville, KY
June 8-12

Pontiac Nationals
Norwalk, OH
July 18-20

Yankee Chapter POCI



**BAY STATE
MOTOR FESTIVAL**

Sunday, June 8, 2025
Cushing Memorial Park
Framingham, MA

PIONEER VALLEY GTO ASSOCIATION'S
24TH ANNUAL
CLASSIC CAR SHOW

ALL MAKES & MODELS
WELCOME

JUNE 8, 2025
9 AM - 2 PM

THE ELKS LODGE #61 • 440 TIFFANY ST. • SPRINGFIELD, MA 01108

In Memoriam



We are sad to announce the recent passing of Julia Marie O'Brien.

Julia was 95 years young and lived a long and wonderful life.

She was the loving mother of our Club Treasurer Anne Marie Mandarano
and mother-in-law to Club Member Joe Mandarano.

The Yankee Chapter sends our deepest condolences to Julia's family.

May her memory be a blessing.

Our Leadership Team Consists Of The Following Dedicated Members:

President: [Mike Green](#)

Vice President: [Scott Peitzsch](#)

Treasurer: [Ann Marie Mandarano](#)

Secretary: [Kara Davidson](#)

Newsletter, Digital Media: [Andy Epstein](#)

Board of Directors:

[Mitch Gage](#), [Merle Green](#), [Dave Kantarges](#), [Matt Morana](#), [Ron Senesi](#)

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