



## 2016 Board Minutes, 13 July 2016

### Bettendorf, Iowa

### 44<sup>th</sup> Annual POCI Convention

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Announcement by President Merle Green that Justin LaClair will be live streaming some of the Board meeting on Face Book

8:05 Roll Call

Present/Absent

Merle Green, President

P

Wayne F. Beran, Vice President

P

Peggy Cox, Assistant Secretary

P

Simone Young, Treasurer

P

Donald A. Bougher, Founder and Director Emeritus

A

Don Barlup, Director Emeritus

A

Byron Joe Stout, Director Emeritus

A

Arthur Ruscher, Director Emeritus

A

Todd Schaefer, Director Emeritus

A

Gale Menger, Director Emeritus

P

Art Barrett, Convention Coordinator

P

Larry Crider, Convention Coordinator

P

Richard Cook

P

Rick Gonser, POCI Car Show Coordinator

P

and Senior Points Judge

Dan Dickey

A

Marvin Diaz

P

Dave Luken

P

Michael Murray

P

Les Kasten

P

Jim Black	P
Greg Kersul	P
Jack Anderson	P
James Patterson	P
John Cappelmann	P
John Gunnell	P
Lars-Ingvar Elofsson	P
Mark Tilson	P
Mike Darr	P
Ron Berglund	P
Verne Howard	P

24 Present; 8 absent Also present: Paul Bergstrom, POCl Office and Tim Dye, Smoke Signals Editor

8:05 Welcome to all given by our President, Merle Green especially to Lars-Ingvar Elofsson who joined us from

Sweden. It is very good to have everyone present. There was only one current board member was missing – very good attendance this year.

#### Board Agenda

7:30 Continental breakfast

8:00 Roll call

8:05 Welcome Recognize new members

8:15 Vote to close agenda Ask for additions then vote

8:20 Accept 2015 minutes

8:25 President's Report

8:30 Vice President's Report

8:45 Treasurer's Report Budget Life Partners Line item for Michael Carmichael Travel allowance for Peggy Cox

9:15 Committee reports Committee Assignments and responsibilities Nominations Committee assignments Scholarship Sawruk scholarship Tech Advisor Coordinator Chapter Coordinator Director's Handbook Grievance Committee Website & social media Website Face book.

9:45 Break 10:00 Reconvene

10:01 Committee Reports Judging, Liability insurance, Software update, Station wagons, Publications Smoke Signals increase advertising rates, Rules for classified ads ,Advertising Hemmings AACA, Membership POCl presence Spring Carlisle Norwalk Fall Hershey MCACN Daytona Turkey Run, Target former members from the HPP list POCl membership, follow up for chapters 90 day membership for convention

12:00 Break for Lunch

1:00 Reconvene

1:01 Board Functions

Original Owner Award; Secretary; Reduce the number of directors; Club store legacy logo; Lifetime members Kurt Kelsey Sawruk family; Chapter awards

2:15 Newsletter editor report ; Editor email

2:45 Break

3:00 Reconvene

3:01 2016 Convention Report 2017 Convention Presentation

3:45 Relinquish the gavel-Introduce Wayne Beran

4:00 Adjourn

Question for additions to the agenda for today.

**Motion by Wayne Beran, seconded by John Cappelmann to accept and close the agenda for today; Unanimous yes.**

Suggestion by Merle that since we do so much of our work through the year via email that these motions be added to the BOD minutes; Secretary will begin to do this for last year and in the future.

**President's Report** This is Merle's 3<sup>rd</sup> and last report; Membership of 1400 added from High Performance mailing list. 700 of those were lost after the first year. We are now on the positive side of things – on a monthly basis we keep more than we lose.

Contracts for club office, Smoke Signals, Club Store and printing are now in place and the timing is now staggered so that all of the contracts won't come up on the same year again; This was an incredibly time consuming and tedious year but hopefully it has accomplished the goal that Merle set at the first of the year.

**Vice President's Report – Wayne Beran** See page 14 in the Directors Book

8:15 **Treasurer's Report – Simone Young** Simone explained the situation with Life Partners – an investment made several years ago. Life Partners is now in bankruptcy; Simone and Merle are going to Philadelphia; We have been offered 14% of the investment. It has been costing \$521/quarter. These are life insurance policies (3). Investment so far is \$17,044; The policies are Gingels, Henry and Nichols. Henry's policy is covered by the premiums; These individuals are not POCl; Life Partners sold investments; These policies were done as an investment; Life Partners are in bankruptcy court right now; Mickleburg Specialists are bankruptcy specialists that are offering 14% to us now ([www.Cantor.com](http://www.Cantor.com)) Simone now has all of the original paperwork; We now have 2 options: #1) Sell the interest in the policies – this must be done by 22<sup>nd</sup> of July, 2016 (first offered 20% on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July – that offer is no longer good) or #2) Go to the bankruptcy meetings and see what is awarded by the bankruptcy courts. We initially paid \$50,000 and quarterly payments (\$17,500). No dividend statements were sent to the POCl Treasurer; Life Partners are the underwriters; This was done in Texas; Jack Anderson suggested getting in touch with the Texas Department of Insurance; Jim Patterson cited a Wall Street Journal article from May 2016 stating that Life Partners was a fraudulent company: Ron Berglund asked if the SEC was involved. If we go to Bankruptcy Court, we might get basically nothing. Don Barlup suggested taking the 14%. He initially made the investment. Ron asked if there is a receiver. Merle said that probably the bankruptcy attorney is the receiver. Policies were bought in the 80's. We do not have the policies. Mickleburg wants to buy only one of the policies probably. Jack A wants more information. Jack suggests finding an attorney, like a tech advisor, within POCl. Also he suggests asking the billing company for a copy of the policy. Verne Howard suggests getting more information from Mickleburg, et al. Merle asked do we get more information or do we just want to settle and be done with this nightmare. Nichols Policy is \$15,000. Mark Tilson asked if the group is already in Bankruptcy Court, are the policies really still in place. Verne asked if we will be represented in the court. Merle said

yes because it is a class action. Lars asked if we have other old investments; Simone said no – she had no knowledge of any other investments.

**Motion by Gale Menger; Second by Rick Gonser that Simone and either Wayne or Merle along with Ron Berglund and Jack Anderson look into it to get more information within the next ten days; if no more information available, go with the offer. passed unanimously.**

Travel allowance for Peggy Cox, Assistant Secretary Gale said thanks for doing a good job. She was disappointed that no one from the Board stepped up to the position. Mark Tilson said we all know our limitations.

**Motion by John Cappellmann with a second by Gale Menger to pay travel allowance; no objections or discussion; passed unanimously.**

Our current finances are : We invested \$120,00 safely last year which has grown to \$123,000, We also have \$40,000 in an easy access money market account. We need to get Life Partners off of the books – it gives an unrealistic picture. Simone said that we are in really conservative bonds. She also has \$6000 in a small account that be moved to the money market.

Other concerns: During the change of Smoke Signal editors, we are still paying for article writers and also still paying Christopher \$500/month for Face Book Digital manager.

Marvin asked about current P & L sheet. Merle printed the balance sheet for June, 2016. Total was \$422,218 in assets and liabilities. Prepaid insurance has to come out in June and October so \$9800 liability in May. This balance sheet is available if anyone wants to look a

The convention pre-pays are moved out of and back to the original accounts. The pre-pays will go to zero before the accounts go to the CPA for the taxes. Also the pre-paid money for each membership will be moved into the individual accounts.

We were paying \$6000/year for writers. That is in the editor's contract. Don was sending bills after the fact – things like Color Tech – Tom Sherwood – \$250 Tim Dye gets \$62,000 to produce the magazine. John Gunnell is totally against paying for articles. He thinks that we should encourage members to write articles and possible offer a seminar to teach folks to write the articles. Lars agrees. John suggests that we try it for a year at the current rate.

Just an FYI from Simone: The conventions fund our shortcomings in other areas We try to be balanced but it just is not possible with the current membership fees and other income. We need to find other sources of income.

## **Committees**

Executive Committee will remain the same with the exception of Wayne Beran will be taking Merle Green's place. See Directors Handout page 9 for more information

Publication Committee: John Gunnell will be chair. Jim Black will join the committee

Chapter Newsletter and Chapter Co-ordination – Larry Crider, new VP

9:45-10:00 Break

10:01 Reconvene

## **Continuation of Committee Assignments and Reports**

Lars asked about museum contributions – We contribute \$6000/year to the Pontiac Museum

**Nominating Committee** – Verne will step up as Chairman of the committee with Jack Anderson and Michael Murray as committee members.

Question about SEMA as a proposed place to gain advertising sponsors; Ty Hardin puts it together; This is a project for the advertising committee.

**Scholarship Committee Report** by Jim Patterson, Chairman This year we had the most applicants ever – total of 45. Jim wants to add that the applicant's member affiliation has to be a member of POCI for at least one year to apply for a scholarship.

Marge Sawruk wants to replace the John Sawruk Award with an annual scholarship of \$1000. She wants to pick the winner. The scholarship will be for the study of history and/or engineering.

**Motion by Jim Black and second by Rick Gonser to accept the proposal by Marge for the John Sawruk Scholarship Award. Vote is unanimous to accept.**

**Tech Committee** Charles is not present at the convention. Merle has fielded a few complaints; most folks are looking for parts and not really a technical issue. Jim Patterson said that he has had one complaint of rudeness – more information needed on that.

**Chapter Coordinator** John Cappelmann said that we have no new chapters this year but that we do have a couple in the works.

**Directors Handbook** Ron Berglund is chairing this – it is in the works; He will require everyone's input so send your job descriptions as you see them to Ron please.

**Grievance Committee** Verne Howard is Chair. He had 2 grievances this year. The 2<sup>nd</sup> one is resolved. The first was Ralph Keller and Harold Vergle (NY). H. Vergle had parts advertised in Smokes. When a refund was requested by R. Keller he was charged a \$20 restock fee. Apparently Vergle was attempting to run a business using personal ads in Smoke Signals. And was very flippant when questioned about the restock fee. His privileges of advertising were revoked for a six month period.

**Website Management** Lars-Ingvar Elofsson said that we need to be better in the forums. He also was against us putting our classified ads onto Face Book. His reason for this is that it takes a lot of work and maintenance. He said there would be screen clips onto other pages. How do we get our word out? There are over 20 Pontiac pages out there now. Our Face Book page is in serious need of an update. When working on this page you get the impression that it is difficult to add thread and that the threads need to be accepted by a moderator. The board agrees that it need updating. Lars asked if he can put threads to other pages on our page. Paul B said that he can make Lars an administrator. Lars would also like us to be active on Blogs. Justin La Claire said that he can loosen some of the controls and that once in the system Lars can add blogs.

**Museum Committee** Lars said that we should recoup something from our \$6,000/year investment. Possibly there could be Smoke Signals for sale at the museum. Possibly have a Special POCI Day and maybe a POCI neon sign in the museum. He feels that we should work more with Tim Dye so that visitors to the museum will see more of a connection between POCI and the museum. He also suggested that we have a computer in the museum with one button access to POCI website. Jack Anderson asked if we could purchase business cards and put them in the museum. Marvin Diaz asked about what we actually get for our \$500/month investment? Merle Green told him about the storage and the support that we get and that Tim will eventually have a POCI room upstairs. Also we do have more presence in the museum than anyone else. Lars will go to visit the museum after the convention. He will have a meeting with Tim Dye while at the museum. A report will follow later.

**Judging** Rick Gonser Points judging going OK. Last year we had the issue of Safaris being separate from the regular Station Wagons. B Body station wagons are still in the regular B bodies. Rick wants to put station wagons back to the way it was. If 3 or less Station Wagons present leave at the discretion of the hosts chapter and the judging committee to move them to the regular class. Jack Anderson wants to leave it alone

Motion by Verne Howard and a second by Mike Darr to change it back to the way it had been – vote was 24 to 1 in favor – Motion passes.

The judging committee is looking at a software upgrade for the judging. They are currently using the old Lotus program. They are looking at Access. The old records would have to stay in the old format. FYI Steve and Rick are still using their own old computers.

Item 12 – Liability insurance. Rick has read over last year's minutes. There was no decision made last year. Today a 1966 race car showed up. Art says that we should have a disclaimer and just get out of the insurance business. Enter at your own risk. Art believes that this statement should be with the registration forms.

Merle has spoken with Tom Mecum at JC Taylor Insurance. He says that we are not responsible for person to person problems. If a wreck occurs, it is the responsibility of the car owners to work it out. Right now we are acting as insurance police.

Jack Anderson thinks that we should put a waiver on the registration forms.

Motion by Art Barrett and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Darr In an effort to relieve POCI of responsibility or appearance of responsibility we will put on the registration form that POCI has no responsibility for personal or property damage as a result of anything happening at our show. There will no longer be a requirement for insurance to be a part of the show. The motion passes with a unanimous vote.

The 1966 will be allowed onto the show field this year.

Merle discussed the left over trophies each year . Steve Cook suggested that we put peel on labels on them and give them to the convention workers. In Popular Vote there can be as many as 50 left over. The suggestion is that they stay with the local chapter since they are normally customized to the particular venue. If the local Chapter wants to add stickers, it is their responsibility.

**Publications Committee** We are deferring the Smoke Signal advertising increase back to the Advertising Committee. Paul B asked about commercial classified and non-member classified. This will also refer back to Paul as the Advertising Manager.

**Membership Committee:** See recommendations of the committee on page 27 of the Directors Handbook.

#1 Motion by Don Bougher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gale Menger that we require 100% club membership in POCI

Discussion: the Overhead Cammers, Early Times and all of the Specialty Chapters will be hurt.

Vote 24 opposed 1 for The motion does not pass.

#2 Motion by Don Bougher and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Black that a Face book page be set up for classified ads for the exclusive us of POCI members. There would be no financial cost to POCI. Vote: Unanimous YES; Motion Passes

Discussion about how this would work. Justin and Paul would be the administrators. Jim Black says it is just another way to gain members by adding services. Lars sees some potential and is willing to help out with his project.

#3 Motion by Don Bougher 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Luken to reinstate the Good Guy Programs. It requires 5 new members to get a badge or free months on membership. Richard Cook asks how many free months. Paul said 6-8 months. Jack Anderson wants to keep the current program. John Gunnell asked "What is the retention rate on members/" We don't track. Paul Bergstrom staid that we had 1,100 new members in December 2014 and we have retained about 55% so far.

Vote: Yes 0 No – unanimous Motion does not pass.

#4 Motion by Don Bougher 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Beran that a committee be appointed to reevaluate our current policy of placing paid advertising in automobile related magazines. This would result in a significant financial savings for POCI.

Some Discussion **Move to Question Yes 3 No 21 Motion Failed to pass**

Ideas for membership More POCl presence in Spring Carlisle, Norwalk, Fall Hershey, MCACN, Daytona Turkey Run. Contact Tyrone Mount. This was referred to the membership committee.

Also target former members and see if we can get them to return and also get non-POCl Chapter members into POCl.

**Original Owners Award** Jack Anderson and Jon Havens – see handout for rules. Pre 1970 information is not computerized. Pre 1960 – it will be up to the owner to prove that it is a one owner car.

How many cars at any given convention fit this criteria? GTOAA had 10 at their last convention. They have about 70 total. How does this help the club? The award will be shown at shows other than POCl and perhaps tweak interest. It is another way to start a conversation about POCl. It is also good recognition for members and also good for member retention. Ron Berglund asked who manages the program. Jack Anderson and Jon Havens will be the managers of the program. Verne Howard asked is there an entrance or registration fee? This is to be determined.

**Motion: by Jack Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Berglund that POCl institute an original owner, 120 day, one time awards, paid for out of POCl funds. Amend to 90 day – opposed to 120 day. Vote is unanimous to have the Original Owners Award with 90 days.**

**Motion by Gale Menger , 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Black to use the top award style – less complicated. No -4 Yes -21 Motion is approved**

Committee appointed for the Original Owner Award : Jack Anderson, Jon Havens, Dave Luken

### **Secretary Position**

**Motion by Mark Tilson 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Cappelmann to amend the constitution to allow the position of secretary to be filled by a member at large and not exclusively by a Director**

**Vote was unanimous Yes – Motion passes**

**Motion by Jack Anderson with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Murray to amend bylaw #3 to allow officers to be reimbursed for travel the same as a director.**

**Vote is unanimous Yes – Motion passes**

**Legacy Logos** – all approved having these available through the stores.

**Chapter Awards** It seems that the awards are given to the same folks each time – a committee is formed to restructure Chapter Awards Committee is: **Larry Crider, Verne Howard, Mike Darr and Mike Murray**

**Smoke Signal Editor Report** Tim Dye Jim Patterson had a question about the location of the President and Vice President Messages in the Smokes – Why changed? Tim explained that these were changed to the middle section because it is dedicated to club information – stuff that is not professional writing. Jim also wanted to know how to make the Scholarship applications advertisement more significant so that we will get more exposure for this program.

John Gunnell asked if Tim could put all the ads together? Tim said that he tries to switch it around because he doesn't like to split stories with ads. The amount of advertising has remained the same.

Paul will increase email storage for Tim Dye. Snail mail will always be an issue – this is not a POCl or a printing issue. This part of the process is happening on time – this is a USPS issue. The email membership is steady at 400-500. Do we try to increase this number. The e-version has the potential to cut costs and recruit new, younger members. Tim will get costs associated with upgrades to the Social Media Committee.

Paul Bergstrom wants to target the High Performance email list again. Also wants to use the Legacy Logo.

**Board of Directors Discussion** A discussion was had about reducing the number of directors and also about doing more business by email. The secretary will begin to include the year's business that is conducted by email into the club minutes (this will be retroactive to 2015 Board Meeting),

Motion by Jack Anderson with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Black to reduce the number of directors to 21 voting members vs. the current 29 members. Reduction would be to 16 directors and 5 Director Emeritus votes. 7 yes 15 no Motion is defeated.

Jack Anderson brought up the feasibility of going to video conferencing so that we could have more than one board meeting a year – possibly monthly or quarterly.

Motion by Jack Anderson with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Darr to investigate Skype – costs, feasibility, etc. 17 yes 4 against – Motion passes

4:15 pm President Merle Green said that he has enjoyed his time and is turning the gavel over to Wayne Beran at the close of the banquet on Saturday night. He will remain on the Board and will continue to be active! He also presented his executive board with incredibly pretty clocks. Shirts were given to Wayne Beran (new President) and Larry Crider (new Vice President). Thank you Merle for 3 really great years.

Wayne Beran said that he is looking forward to his time as President. He announced that John Cappelmann will be his Sergeant in Arms. He also said that the upcoming Directors Handbook will have a section on the importance of directors being at the Board meeting. He also stressed the importance of Directors contacting their chapters to make sure that they are sending in their end of year reports and supporting POCI. He will be available to offer any assistance.

Welcome Wayne!

4:30 pm Motion to adjourn by Mike Darr and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Crider. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy M. Cox, POCI Assistant Secretary

**See you Next Summer in Fort Worth!!**