



# 47th Annual POCI Convention - July 16-21, 2019 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

previews by Cary Schuck

**Drag** racing will NOT be one of the activities featured at this year's convention, but those who enjoy watching or participating in this exciting sport will certainly want to greet two of our special guests!

## Arnie Beswick

Arnie "The Farmer" Beswick earned his nickname from the vocation that supported his early racing efforts on local Midwestern dragstrips in the 1950s. After campaigning a Dodge and an Oldsmobile during his first three years, Arnie turned to Pontiac with a rare 1958 T-395A Tri-Powered Chieftain. The following year he continued to win with a 1959 Catalina followed by 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963 Pontiacs upgraded with Super Duty components. Believing the premise of "Win on Sunday, Sell on Monday," all of the Big Three domestic auto manufacturers provided extensive support for oval track and drag racing.

That support came to an abrupt end for Chevy and Pontiac racers in January of 1963 when GM management instituted a ban on all factory-sponsored competition. Many teams turned to Ford or Chrysler for race deals, but Arnie remained loyal to the Pontiac brand. His efforts as an independent produced memorable Factory Experimental machines like the "Mystery Tornado" GTO, "Mrs. B's Grocery Getter" Tempest wagon and the altered-wheelbase "Tameless Tiger" GTO.

After a fire destroyed his shop and cars in 1972, Arnie took a hiatus from racing and returned to farming full-time. Beswick eventually returned to drag racing in the "nostalgia" classes that emerged in the late 1980s, remaining just as popular with the dedicated fans who had not forgotten his earlier success.

Continuing his winning ways long after most of his peers retired, Arnie Beswick is one of the most enduring legends in the world of quarter-mile racing. He will join us at the 2019 POCI Convention and one of his race cars will be displayed in a centrally located exhibit area.



## Paul Spotts

One key ingredient for winning performance on the drag strip or the street is an engine built with the proper components for the purpose. Racer and engine builder Paul Spotts has specialized in assembling and tuning Pontiac V8s from mild to wild for many years and is well qualified to discuss the subject.

Paul has been a POCI member since 1979 and is currently the owner of Spotts Performance that deals exclusively with Pontiac engine building, parts, and service. Established in 1999, the company has assembled everything from bone stock to blown alcohol V8s and has experience with Super Duty and Ram Air engines.

In the 1980s, Paul owned a Firebird parts business that was merged into Performance Years where he served as Vice President for ten years. In addition, Paul served as technical Q&A writer for *High Performance Pontiac* and contributed to Jim Hand's Pontiac engine book. He has many years of racing experience in Pontiac-powered machines including a front-engine dragster that ran 7.13 seconds at 196 mph.

Paul is planning to discuss modern engine building techniques and real-world rebuilding experiences. He will put to rest some "fake news" and misconceptions on Pontiac engine problems and procedures, talk about Pontiac performance and reproduction parts, and open the floor for questions. Scheduled for Thursday afternoon, his seminar should prove especially interesting for those who enjoy turning their own wrenches or launching themselves down a quarter-mile strip of asphalt. **JN**



## 2019 POCI CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM



47<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Pontiac Oakland Club International Convention

July 16 - 21, 2019

Venue: Gateway Gettysburg

95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325

[www.gatewaygettysburg.com](http://www.gatewaygettysburg.com)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL MEMBERS, EVEN IF NOT ENTERING A VEHICLE.

MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE: \$65.00 ~ AFTER JULY 1, 2019: \$85.00  
(REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES MEMBER, SPOUSE AND CHILDREN)

PAY BY CREDIT CARD, OR MAIL IN A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO:  
"2019 POCI CONVENTION". YOU MAY REGISTER ON LINE AT: [WWW.POCI.ORG](http://WWW.POCI.ORG)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POCI # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL # \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

(VISA, MC OR DISCOVER) EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL THIS FORM TO:



POCI 2019 CONVENTION  
PO Box 421  
LONG LAKE, MN 55356

Convention Activity Packets with detailed car show registration information and an activity sign up sheet will be mailed to you on 3/15/19.

CONVENTION UPDATES ARE POSTED AT [WWW.POCI.ORG](http://WWW.POCI.ORG)

FOR CONVENTION QUESTIONS, CALL THE POCI CLUB OFFICE (763) 479-2111

WYNDHAM GETTYSBURG (HOST HOTEL)

RESERVATIONS: (717) 339-0020 MENTION "POCI GROUP BLOCK" / SOLD OUT

COURTYARD MARRIOT (CO-HOST HOTEL)

RESERVATIONS: (717) 334-5600 MENTION "POCI GROUP BLOCK"

CONVENTION COORDINATORS: ART BARRETT (417) 737-1469 [ARTBARRETT@CENTURYTEL.NET](mailto:ARTBARRETT@CENTURYTEL.NET)

LARRY CRIDER (918) 798-2765 [PONTIACFUN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PONTIACFUN@GMAIL.COM)

HOST CHAPTER CONTACTS: BOB DUNBAR (302) 542-5790 [ROBERT\\_DUNBAR@COMCAST.NET](mailto:ROBERT_DUNBAR@COMCAST.NET)

JAMES MARTIN (717) 940-0529 [JAMESAMARTIN@COMCAST.NET](mailto:JAMESAMARTIN@COMCAST.NET)

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