PONTIAC-OAKLAND
CLUB INTERNATIONAL

www.southjerseypontiacs.com

# PMD Excitement

Newsletter of the South Jersey Pontiac Chapter, P.O.C.I.

November 2019

2001, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2017 Golden Quill Award presented by OLD CARS WEEKLY



## The Washington Township K-9 Team

K-9 Officer Bob McGovern

K-9 Officer Jeff Kalber

K-9 Officer Kris Hice

K-9 Unit Award Winner Bill Long

K-9 Officer Mark Allen

## Washington Township WTPD K-9 NJ K-9 Benefit Car Show



K-9 Lync



K-9 Omac

# President's Message




## November 2019

**Washington Township**

On October 12 we hosted the 2nd annual Washington Township K-9 Benefit Car Show to support the K-9 unit of the Township's police department. Unlike last year, we enjoyed a beautiful weather day that helped attract 184 participants.

That large number of vehicles caused a large parking problem. There wasn't enough asphalt parking for everyone, so we ended up parking cars on the parking lot perimeter grass and even across the street from the show. Thankfully, none of the participants minded where they were parked.

From the beginning of planning for the show, we received tremendous support form Jason Gonter, the Business Administrator for the Township. Jason's coordination with various Township departments is critical to having a successful show. For sire, we do a lot to get ready for a car show, but Jason may do even more.

On the day of the show we received great hospitality from Mayor Joann Gattinelli, Police Chief Patrick Gurcsik, Lieutenant Mike Contii, the K-9 team, and the members of the Township Council headed by Council President Joe Perry.

Our club was honored with a Proclamation from the Township and a Community Commitment Award from the Township Police Department. This was the first time we have ever been honored with anything approaching this. I am humbled by how others view the contributions that our club makes in the community.

Our club member turnout was on the light side this year as a few club members had other commitments, so we enlisted help from the Delaware Valley Old Goat Club - Ronnie and Joe Bartha and Tim Moore. I want to thank those of you who were able to attend the show and help us make this event a success.

This year Girl Scout Troop 62371 joined us, helping distribute t-shirts to the participants, having a bake sale to support their troop and choosing their favorite vehicle. And, doing lots of cartwheels making us feel even older.

**Holiday Party**

Our holiday party is Sunday, December 8, at the Indian Spring Golf Course in Evesham Township. For those of you who attended last year, you know what a nice time we had. The food was fresh and having our own private room made the party much more enjoyable.

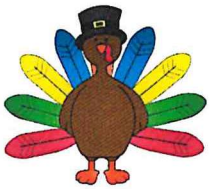
We will have our annual trivia contest to test your Pontiac knowledge. I'm usually good for getting half of the questions correct. Hopefully you can do better. The guest trivia contest is also on the menu with the winner receiving a gift card. Dress is casual. Fun is automatic.

The holiday party is free for club members. Guests are $25 each. A sign-up sheet was distributed at the October and November meetings. Teri is collecting money for the party. If you weren't at the meeting, but want to join us, please let me know no later than November 30.

**Happy Holidays**

This is our last newsletter of the year. The next one you'll see will be in January. On behalf of the officers and directors of the South Jersey Pontiac Club, I want to wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving and a safe and beautiful holiday season. Until next year, please drive carefully wherever you travel. See you in 2020.

*Chuck Catalano*



# Washington Township K-9 Benefit Car Show

***words*** *Chuck Catalano* ***photos*** *Bob Axtman and Bill Reich*

### A Much Better Year Two

Our second year hosting the Washington Township K-9 Benefit Car Show was twice as good, plus some, than our show in 2018. Besides the advertising by distributing show flyers and posting on every social media platform on the Internet of everything, the weather was a main reason for the parking lot overfilling with 184 car and trucks.

Jason Gonter, a car show enthusiast, and long-time supporter of our shows, was again my primary point of contact, starting at least six months before the October 12 show date.

### Along the Way as We Wait

Six months to plan the event doesn't seem like enough time. There are so many little details to be concerned about, and every time one problem was solved, another reared its ugly head.

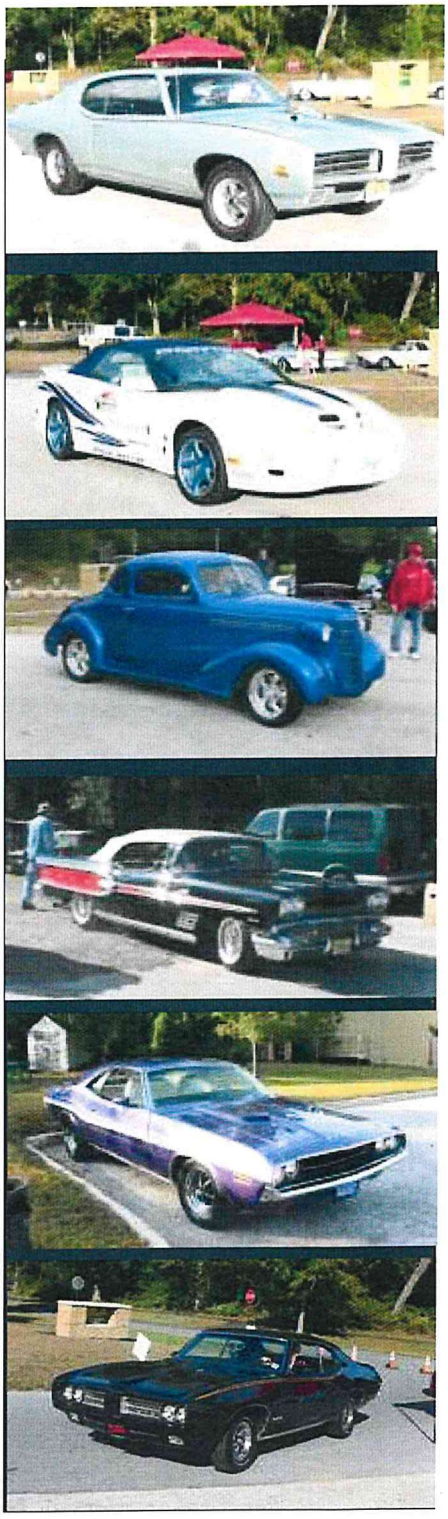
There were well over 100 car shows and cruises at which we could distribute the flyers and that's what we did. Tom attended every show he could passing out the show's flyers, along with flyers he gives out for all the other 10 or 12 shows he plans for with his other two car clubs. Wayne Guy also distributed hundreds of flyers at shows in his area.

Ronnie and Joe Bartha from the Delaware Valley Old Goat Club just happen to go to just about every show there is in the area, especially shows in the Washington Township area. They have always been gracious enough to hand out flyers for the shows we host. We owe them a huge thank you for doing this for us. I'm guessing they handed out half of the flyers we had printed.

Washington Township gave us a budget allowing us to order 121 awards. We had 29 trophies left over from last year's show, so we used them this year. In total, we had 150 awards. Ordering the trophies was the last step we took to get ready for the show.

### The Wait Is Over

A week before the show, I started looking at the weather forecast. It doesn't do much good to look any further ahead, as the forecast changes every day around here.





Although we judge the show, Washington Township provides us with assistance, choosing the vehicles that receive dignitary awards. We had 11 Township dignitary, and one special Girl Scout Troop 62371 trophy. All are featured on this and the next page. Thanks to all the dignitaries and the Girl Scouts for choosing some great cars and trucks.



Mayor Joann Gattinelli chose this 1956 Chevrolet owned by Joe Lamonica



Robert and Meagan Van Zoeren's 1979 Rolls Royce, was Chief Patrick Gurcsik's choice



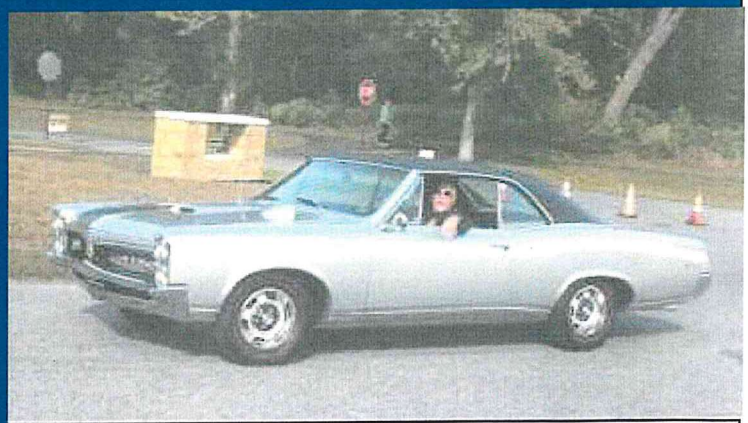
This 1993 Ford Lightning owned by Art Centrella, was chosen by Councilwoman Dana Pasqualone



Councilwoman Andrea Dougherty selected this Ford owned by Clarence Lewis



The Township Veterans' Committee selected Martin Hirsch's 1958 Bonneville convertible



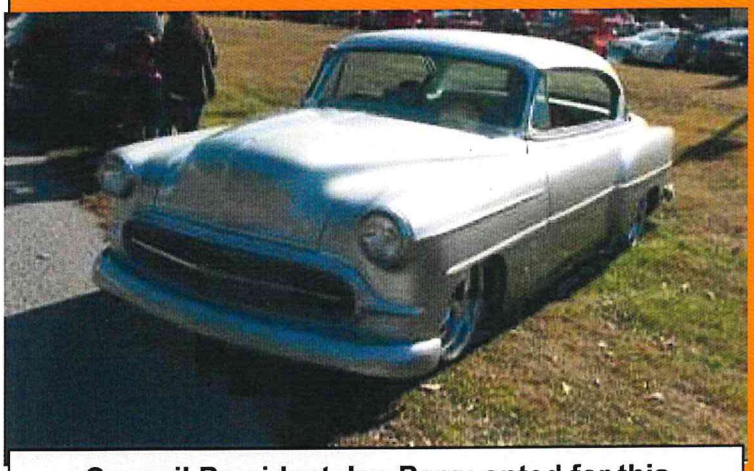
The K9 Unit team selected Bill Long's 1967 GTO as their favorite vehicle at the show



Jason Gonter, the Township Business Administrator liked Chris Tomasco's 2010 Camaro



This 1918 Model T was chosen by Councilwoman Andra Williams. It is owned by Al Afflerbach



Council President Joe Perry opted for this 1954 Belair owned by Bill Russell



The young ladies of Girl Scout Troop 62371 liked this 2017 Wrangler owned by Maggie Santiago



Anthony Langston's 2011 Corvette was chosen by the Township Public Works Department



Council VP Sean Longfellow picked this 2009 Dodge owned by Robert Marren

But it looked like it was going to be a perfect weather day for the show. And, that's what we got. A day so beautiful we didn't have enough parking to accommodate the number of participants

**The Best and Top Tens**

In addition to the Township dignitaries' choices, we had Top Ten awards in Stock, Modified and New Generation vehicle classes. (New Generation vehicles are model year 2000 and newer). Plus, we had Best of Show trophies in each category. Top Ten trophies were chosen by our judging teams. Steve Laughlin was assigned to pick the Best of Show awards.

**The Day of the Girl**

This year we were pleased to enjoy the company of Girl Scout Troop 62371 led by den mother Dana Swider.

The girls set up a bake sale table (yes, I indulged in many of their cookies) and helped us hand out t-shirts. We had a special trophy made for them and they used it wisely, picking a cool 2017 Jeep Wrangler owned by Maggie Santiago. (bottom right and middle, right picture on page 5). Thanks girls. We really enjoyed having you with us and hope that you join us next year.

**The Best of Show**

These top-level awards went to the following vehicles (all are pictured right):

**Stock** – 1966 Dodge Coronet owned by Dan Juhasz

**Modified** – 1979 Monte Carlo owned by Carlton Aston

**New Generation** – 2007 Corvette owned by Bobby Steel



Best Stock
1966 Dodge Coronet



Best Modified
1979 Monte Carlo



Best New Gen – 2007 Corvette



The young ladies of Girl Scout Troop 62371 with Mayor Gattinelli and Maggie Santiago (holding her trophy)

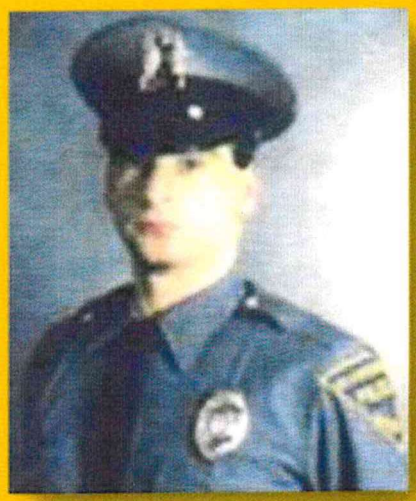
# Corporal Steve Levy Memorial Award - Badge 63

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the shooting death of Washington Township Police Department Corporal Steven Levy. Officer Levy started his career with the Washington Township police in 1988.

He was shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to a domestic disturbance situation in Woodbury, NJ. At the time, Corporal Levy was a member of the Gloucester County Critical Incident Team. He entered the home as part of the team, where he was shot by the suspect he was looking for.

During his career, Corporal Levy received six official commendations, 16 official Letters of Recognition, two Lifesaving Awards and two Distinguished Service Awards.

His watch ended on October 21, 1999.



Right: *Washington Township Police Chief Patrick Gurcsik (L) and Mayor Joann Gattinelli (R) presenting the Corporal Steven Levy Memorial Award to Ron Burgess*



Below:
*Ron Burgess' 2008 Corvette*





**A Proclamation and A Community Commitment Award**

When we started the awards ceremony, the Mayor began with a Township of Washington Proclamation expressing their appreciation to the South Jersey Pontic Club. This was a complete surprise to all of us. This proclamation is a tribute to the all the members of the club that support this great event. Thanks to the Mayor and township Council for presenting us with this award.

In addition to the Proclamation, Police Chief Patrick Gurcsik presented a Community Commitment Award to our club for *"support, devotion and commitment to the Washington Township Police Department"*

The Proclamation and Community Commitment Award are very special to us. On behalf of the South Jersey Pontiac Club we are very grateful for both of these tremendous awards.

**Thank You**

I can't say thank you enough to Jason Gonter for the amazing support he gave us from day one to the day of show. It was a pleasure to work with you and we look forward to teaming up with you again in 2020 for an even bigger event.

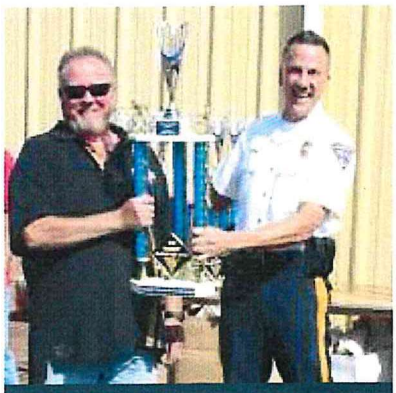
Thanks to Lieutenant Mike Conti, the police K-9 Unit supervisor who coordinated a long list of activities before and during the show.

Thank you to Mayor Joann Gattinelli and Police Chief Patrick Gurcsik for their nonstop support of this event and our club.

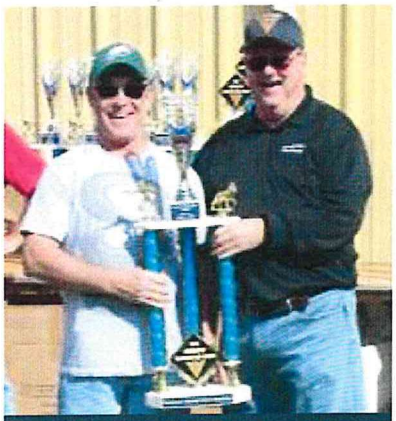
My last thank you goes to the Pontiac club members who volunteered to work at the show. It wasn't an easy day to host a car show. The big participant turnout made it difficult for us to sort everything out so we could host a car show that everyone would enjoy.

**See You Next Year**

We enjoyed hosting this event and spending the day with the great people in Washington Township. October 2020 can't get here fast enough for me.



Chief Gurcsik presenting his award to Terry Van Zoeren



Council President Joe Perry with his award winner Bill Russell



Mayor Gattinelli presenting the Township Proclamation to the South Jersey Pontiac Club.



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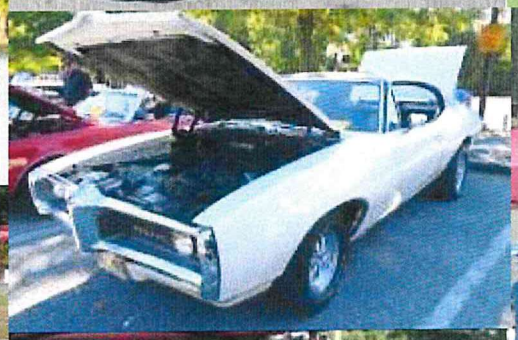




























**Club meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month. Meetings start at 7:00 pm.**