



Summer 2005
Volume 7, Number 2

Custom Safari Chapter

2005 Poci Convention Review - Safari Contingency Enjoys the Indoors!!



Safari Club - POCI Nationals-Greenville SC- July 2005

Pontiac Oakland Club International

From the President's Garage

By Mark Petry

"2005 Convention Reflections"

Greetings fellow Custom Safari Chapter members: I hope the summer has been a pleasant and rewarding one for all of you. For those of you who could not attend, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the 2005 POCI Convention.

It was held at the Palmetto Convention Center in Greenville, SC from July 12th thru July 16th. We had 5 days of sunshine with only a few minor showers in the afternoon or evening. Given that it was held in South Carolina in July, it is not surprising that it was hot during the day, however the attendees were in for a treat in that all the major events, as well as, 400+ display cars were held inside the air-conditioned convention center. The only exception was the swap meet, which was held across the street. The ability to detail and show our cars and to interact with other Pontiac fans in such pleasant conditions was an experience we won't soon forget.

Our annual Custom Safari Chapter meeting was held at the Convention Center on Wednesday, the 13th. We had 11 members present. We missed our secretary/treasurer, Starr Evans, who couldn't make it this year. Thanks to Noel Evans who stood in for her and gave the treasurer's report. It was great to see our vice-president/newsletter editor, Rich Pye and meet his family. The minutes of the meeting are included in the newsletter, but here are some meeting highlights. A decision was made to retire the "traveling" Safari Club "Best of Show" trophy to the chapter display, but to continue to add a plaque to it each year with the winners name and to give a smaller trophy each year to the winner to keep. Starr Evans has agreed to take on the task of acquiring club shirts. She will report her findings in a future newsletter. The dues will remain at \$18 per year.

After the meeting, a number of the members went on to our annual "Safari Cruise" Breakfast outing at Stax, a local restaurant with great food and plenty of parking. After the breakfast, many of us went to visit two local attractions which we had pre-arranged for the Safari Chapter. First, we went to the Greenville American Legion War Museum with fascinating exhibits covering from the American Revolution War to the Gulf War. As an added bonus, our tour guide was a WWII veteran who had been General Patton's driver in Europe during the war. He shared many fascinating stories with our group.

After the museum, we toured the Kilgore-Lewis house and gardens. It is a restored mid-19th century home with period furniture and gave us a glimpse into what life was like in those times. From there the group was free to visit downtown Greenville which is a quaint town with great shops, restaurants, and attractions such as a waterfall in the middle of town with a suspension bridge walkway over it.

“2005 Convention Reflections”

The points' judging was held on Friday and the popular vote followed on Saturday. Given that Greenville was only 120 miles from our home, Robin and I were able to have both our '56 Safari and '55 convertible entered. The Safari chapter members did very well in many categories:

Popular Vote Custom Safari:

1st place, Robin and Mark Petry, 1956 Safari
2nd place, Gary and DeeAnn Parker, 1955 Safari
3rd place, Noel and Starr Evans, 1957 Safari

Popular Vote SM1 1926-1957:

1st place, Carl and Darlene Loftis, 1957 Safari

Popular Vote: 3rd place, Mark and Robin Petry, 1955 Convertible
Popular Vote: 2nd place, Eric Foehr, 1967 GTO
Points Judged: Gold Award, Lou Calasibetta, modified 1957 GMC Pickup

In addition to those winners, the Pye family children won in the coloring contests and Eric and Evan Foehr won 1st place in their age group for the model car contests. At our Custom Safari Club meeting on Saturday, Darlene and Carl Loftis were voted by the club to have the “Best of Show” Safari. Jack and Jill White won the long distance award. Congratulations to all the winners!

The 2005 convention was one of the best we attended. The accommodations, food, attractions, seminars, and display facilities seemed to please everyone we spoke to and as always we were sorry to see it end!

The 2006 Convention is set for June 27-July 2 in Ontario, California. Robin and I will fly out and make a west coast vacation out of it. We know it will sure feel funny to be at a POCI convention without one of our cars, but we are looking forward to the chance to meet and get to know some of our west coast based members. Here's hoping that we'll see as many Safari Chapter members there as possible.

That's about it for now.

Have a great fall season!

Mark Petry

Chapter Annual Meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

President Mark Petry opened the meeting at 8:35 am. He introduced himself, officers in attendance, regional directors followed by those in attendance introducing themselves.

In attendance: Mark and Robin Petry, Steve Cook, Noel Evans, Eric Foehr, Gary and DeeAnn Parker, Rich Pye, Jack and Jill White, and Lou Calasibetta.

Noel Evans gave the treasurer's report for Starr Evans. Current balance is \$1304.59 with the outstanding expense being the postage (0.83cents per newsletter) for the last newsletter. The newsletter cost is currently just postage due to Rich being able to print it in color at work, but that may change in the near future. Current membership is 37 members. Robin Petry reported a membership comparison to the last five years: 2002 was lowest at 34 members and 2001 highest at 47 members.

Rich Pye gave newsletter editor report: He needs members to send in any Safari information, articles, and trivia no matter how small or large. He continues to put in the Safari member of the Quarter and selects one who has sent in a picture(s). Mark encouraged members to send in their "expert tips" to help other members. Steve Cook was willing to write a technical article for the newsletter. Rich plans to work on the Web site and add a discussion board. He is working through a current upload problem. The group thanked Rich Pye for his wonderful work on the newsletter and encouraged him to enter them in the Chapter Newsletter Contest.

Recruitment ideas were discussed. Per last years meeting suggestion, Starr Evans did obtain from POCI a list of members with Safari's and sent it to Mark Petry. There are approximately 145 POCI members who are not currently in the Custom Safari Chapter. With approval of the membership present, Robin Petry volunteered to send a membership application she designed along with a black and white newsletter and a cover letter from the president encouraging them to join. Rich Pye can supply black and white newsletters at no cost.

Custom Safari Chapter Display: Robin Petry is interested in reviving the Chapter Display. She put together a book with past newsletters and with membership applications will display that at this year's Chapter Display. Rich Pye and Starr Evans will send her past Chapter Display items they have.

Custom Safari Chapter Awards were discussed. It was decided that the current "Best of Show" trophy would be used as part of the chapter display. A plaque will continue to be added each year with the member's name at the expense of the club and a smaller trophy will be give to the winner each year. Long Distance winner will continue to receive chapter dues free for the following year. Lou Calasibetta will have last year's winner send the large trophy back to Mark Petry. Mark will look into trophies to give to this year's winner and future winners.

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Chapter Annual Meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

The person working on the Safari Chapter Club shirt has not responded to three emails from Mark. If desired by the club, Starr Evans has volunteered to work on this. The group approved and voiced appreciation of her willingness to do this.

Convention Custom Safari Chapter Meeting attendance was discussed and it was suggested to offer a raffle of something to encourage members and potential members present at the convention to attend.

Since our expenses are being met, dues will remain at \$18.00 per year. We do need to increase our membership.

The following information was shared:

Since he was a member at that time, Lou Calasibetta offered some personal reflection on the 1977 Vintage Safari article in the last newsletter.

Steve Cook shared a resource available to correct the Safari tailgate leakage. He stated it is costly at \$1000.00, but very effective.

Robin Petry shared the extra Greenville private tour opportunities she and Mark had arranged: American Legion War Museum and the Kilgore-Lewis House. Those interested in going will leave after the Safari Cruise breakfast.

Mark reminded everyone of the Safari Cruise breakfast after today's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted:

]Robin Petry

Attention Custom Safari Chapter Members

The Pontiac Commercial and Professional Vehicle (PCPV) Chapter of POCI would like to invite you to consider joining our chapter. We have a great newsletter that is published 6 times per year featuring unique Pontiac and GMCs, including sedan deliveries, station wagons, hearses, ambulances, police cars - you name it! We think the Custom Safari group would also enjoy our chapter.

To receive a free sample newsletter and more information contact: PCPV Chapter of POCI, c/o Paul Bergstrom, 1165 County Road 83, Independence, MN 55359, email address: pcpvnews@ties2.net, or call 763-479-2248.

Behind the Wheel in the Editor's Seat

By Rich Pye

Hello Everyone,

I can't believe the summer has come and gone. It sure was a hot one with some wild weather. I hope everyone in the chapter stayed out of harm's way.

Well if you'd peaked ahead, you'll see that this issue is completely dedicated to this year's POCI convention in Greenville, SC. That's okay because it's a great way of sharing some pictures of things that happened for those that didn't make it, and a way to remember the fun we had for those that did.

My family and I personally had an adventurous time getting to the convention. We were visiting my dad in Mississippi prior to the show and ran into a Hurricane named Emily. We tried to figure out when the best time was to leave MS to avoid the storm, so we left early. We were rewarded with the pleasure of driving through the darn thing. Lots of rain, tornado warnings, and a 12 hour drive, but we made it safely 2 days early to the hotel. Unfortunately, we ended up leaving the convention a day ahead of time and missed the car show, so thanks to everyone that took pictures that day.

As others have written it was a real good time for everyone. Having the cars inside the convention center was awesome. It was hot outside, as usual for the conventions, so it was a relief to be able to go into the air conditioning without the sun beating down on you. I only wished that they had figured out how to get the swap meet inside. I probably saved some money since they didn't. As usual I hadn't spent enough time figuring out what I had or needed for my cars prior to arriving, so I pretty much went away empty handed. The Atlanta Dragway was a huge plus for me, being my first time, even though it was a 75 mile drive back in the direction I had just spent time coming from. Grocery Getter rules!!

With the guilt of not finding anything at the swap meet on my conscience, combined with my wife falling in love again with '60s Firebirds, I decided that eBay was the place to be. So I went to work and found a '69 Firebird the next week. Yes, another project... another car in desperate need of a paint job... another spot filled in my barn. This one however has a lot of potential. It truly is a paint job and a new cam and lifters away from being something to be proud of, and a good excuse to spend more time in the barn.

Hope you enjoy the extra 4 pages in this issue. There were so many photos I wanted to get in and leave big enough to view that I decided to make it happen. In the upcoming issues I'll be putting back in Safari Search parts/cars wanted and parts/cars for sale page.



Pony's flair for years-ahead styling was never more evident than in the fabulous all-new Safari.

Please let me know if you have any wants or things for sale. Also please send me a picture of your Safari if you haven't done so, or have new ones.

Until the snow flies, Happy Cruisin'!!

Rich

2005 POCI Convention



Above: Mark and Robin Petry lead the annual chapter meeting.

Below: Four Safaris and a Chevy Suburban (mine) line-up for the Breakfast Cruise.



2005 POCI Convention



*Above: The Four Safaris (White's 57 TC, Evans' 57, Parker's 55, Petry's 56) breaking for breakfast.
Below: The Safari gang stops eating for a group picture. The Pye's, Parker's, Evan's, White's, and Petry's attended.*



2005 POCI Convention



Above: The American Legion War Museum of Greenville, SC, where we visited.

Below: Matthew, Madison, and Mackenzie Pye relax while the group tours the museum.



2005 POCI Convention



Above: Evan and Eric Foehr standing by an American Revolution War uniform.

Below: DeeAnn and Gary Parker with a WWII veteran urging Gary to put down hit weapon.



2005 POCI Convention



Above: A '55 leads the Parker's '55 and the Petry's '56 in front of the Kilgore Lewis House.
Below: A real nice view of the Reedy River Falls and the pedestrian walk bridge.



2005 POCI Convention



Above: The Atlanta Motor Dragway on Pontiac night, what a blast!!

Below: Arnie "The Farmer" Beswick in the Tameless Tiger 2. No motor, no drag.



2005 POCI Convention



Above and Below: The famous Grocery Getter tuned and driven by Arnie Beswick. This car wasn't driven by Arnie this night, but it sure did scoot. Under 8 sec run.



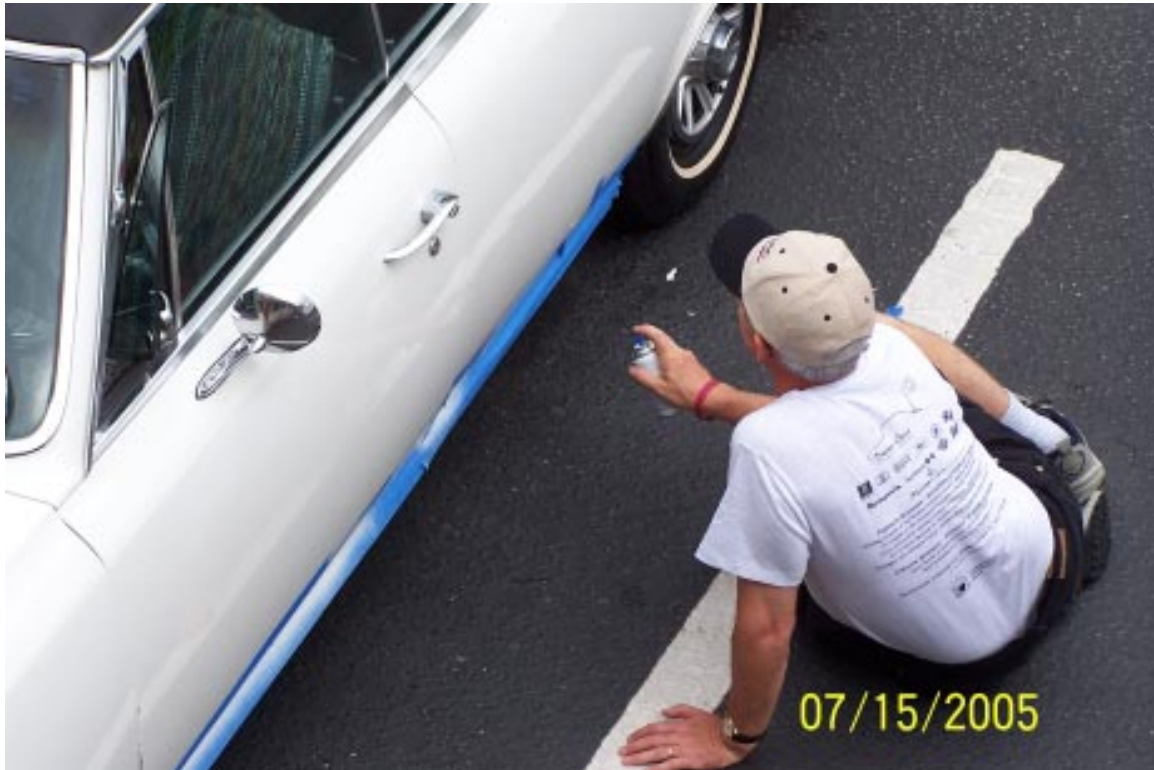
2005 POCI Convention



*Above: Jack and Jill White's '57 TC from above to get a good angle on the roof rack.
Below: Is that an antenna on the roof of the Evan's '57? Was that a factory option?*



2005 POCI Convention



Above and Below: Eric Foehr is caught in the act of last minute modifications, (a.k.a. rust cover-up), on his brother's Lemans. Trying to fool a potential buyer is a no-no!!



2005 POCI Convention



Above and Below: Darlene and Carl Loftis being congratulated by Mark Petry for winning the Best Safari as voted on by the club members. Nice '57!!



2005 POCI Convention



*Above: Safari Member, Steve Cook, helping with Points Judged Category on Friday.
Below: Evan and Eric Foehr with their winning model car trophies.*



2005 POCI Convention



Above: Lou Calasibetta helps Mark Petry get his '56 ready for the show.

Below: It worked, as they took 1st place in the Custom Safari popular vote.



2005 POCI Convention



Above: Jack and Jill White at the car show with their Safari.

Below: Jack spending some money at the swap meet. Hey I need that part!!



POCI Chapter #10

www.customsafari.org

The Custom Safari Chapter is an official international chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club, International, Incorporated. The POCI headquarters address is: 2017 Manatee Avenue, West, Bradenton, Florida 34205

Annual Dues are \$18.00. Renewals are due January 1st of each year. New member dues are prorated quarterly from January 1st. Applicants must be a current member of POCI prior to joining the chapter. Send payment to Starr Evans.

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**2006 Convention in Ontario,
California**
**33rd Annual POCI National
Convention June 27-July 2, 2006**
Hosted by the Southern California
Chapter

