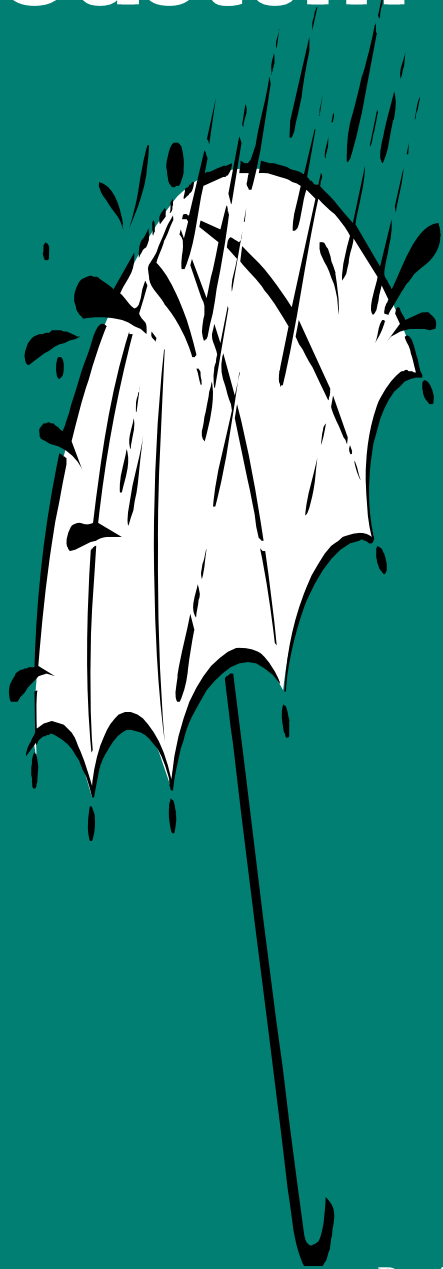


Summer 2002
Volume 4, Number 2

Custom Safari Chapter

*Rain, Rain Go Away.
I Want To Open My
Trophy Today !!*



Pontiac-Oakland Club International (POCI)

Member Safari



Above: Mark Miller's 1957 Safari. Is that a special garage addition for this beauty?



Left: Mark's Safari sporting the "Milrs 57" vanity plate.

Right: Showing off some of his "Custom" engine work.



Safari Member of the Quarter

Your Name: Mark Miller

Spouse's name: Lorene

Child(ren)'s name(s) and age(s): None

Safari(s) Owned: 1957 2 Door Custom Safari

When/Where did you acquire your first Safari? May 2000, San Diego, CA

What was your first car? 1984 Toyota Celica

What was your first Pontiac? 1957 Safari

Reason for "collecting" Safaris: A way cool wagon and very rare

Reason for joining the Custom Safari Chapter: I like car clubs.

Favorite Safari Accessory owned: None

Most wanted Safari Accessory: None

Do you have "other" Pontiacs? If so, list model and year: No

What are your favorite non-Pontiac hobbies? Golf

Least favorite car task: Paying top dollar for rare parts that aren't in good shape!!

Most favorite car task: Driving and changing the stock look of a car

Best thing about being a Pontiac Custom Safari Owner: Making a custom street rod out of it!!

Favorite non-Safari car: A black 1996 Chevy Impala SS, my other car

Favorite car-related web site: None

Favorite parts vendor: Rich and Jerry of California Pontiac Restoration

Best car care tip to share: Drive and enjoy your car!! And Eagle One wet look spray

From the President's Garage

By Robin Clark

Hello Everyone,

Well, once again it's time to congratulate all our winners at the national convention. Seems like every time I blink my eyes, another year goes by. I'm going to have to stop blinking. According to all reports it was an outstanding show with lots of cars and lots of people. Thanks to everyone that helped out. Not to mention your fearless Safari people. Although I was unable to attend, I was there in spirit and wishing I could be there in person.

Has everyone got his or her Safari shirt? I have, and I have received a lot of nice comments about it. I smell Christmas presents.

As you can see, changes are being made to the newsletter. The cost of printing is the deciding factor. All in all Rich is doing an outstanding job. I was glad to see another nice article in the last issue by one of our members. As a former newsletter editor, I have to admit that getting articles from the members makes his job much easier. Now I know that everyone that reads this has some sort of story that relates to his or her Safari. So, get the paper and pencil out, and write-down your experience, and don't forget the photos with your smiling faces.

The P.O.C.I. Western regional meet is here in Southern California this month. Although I won't be able to attend, some of our Western Safari members will be there. Hopefully we will have a lot of nice photographs of the members and their Safaris. Like I said earlier, scheduling just seems to be working against me lately.

Well, I have to get back to work.....again.

May the Safari be with you,

Robin



Behind the Wheel in the Editor's Seat

By Rich Pye

Hello Fellow Safari Enthusiasts,

Another summer has come and gone. I can't believe it went so fast, but we did need a break from the never-ending heat wave, (at least those of us in the Northeast). Where I live in Western, NY we had over 20 days above 90 degrees. Some summers we don't ever have any. Once I start shoveling snow, I'll think about what an idiot I am for complaining.

I hope you enjoy the convention updates in this issue. I think everyone who attended had a good time, even though it rained the entire day of the car show. As Starr states in her convention review, my family and I didn't stay very long after doing the once-around to see all the cars. Puddle jumping was the "in-thing" for my 3 kids, and I was getting tired of being the recipient of the splashes from the various puddles! Besides I had a 510-mile drive home. One area that wasn't affected by the rain was the swap meet, which was uniquely located under the highway ramps. Even though I didn't "score" on anything, it was fun to hunt through rusty metal!

Many thanks go out to our own Bill Fortune who was the convention chairman. Bill did a great job. What amazed me the most was Bill's accessibility during the convention. With everyone wanting his attention, he always took the time to stop and chat and help out whenever he could. And always with his signature smile!!

On the newsletter front, it looks like we might be scaling back to one full-color issue per year with the other three in black and white. I tried the one color sheet thing in the last newsletter, but it was extremely difficult to produce and assemble. I spent an entire afternoon on vacation folding and inserting sheets together. Of course I did get a few beers in at the same time, which wasn't that bad, I guess. We'll see what the future brings.

As Robin mentioned, I am always looking for articles and photos. So pass them along when you get a chance. Remember, what you think is no big deal, maybe something someone else really wants to know. I am especially sending out a plea to those of you that have restored your Safari and can pass along restoration tips to the rest of us. I'm getting tired of finishing last at the car shows!!

Thanks to Starr Evans and Eric Foehr for their photo contributions from the convention and Randy Kerdoon with his article on the Route 66 Bar and Grill.



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

That's enough for now. Get your Safari out and watch the leaves change colors.

Rich

Chapter Meeting - Charleston, WV

By Starr Evans

On July 11 the Custom Safari Chapter held a breakfast cruise to the Cracker Barrel in Nitro, West Virginia. 23 people attended! The food was delicious and the conversations were plentiful. Rich Pye and I felt this was not the time for a meeting, we were much more interested in enjoying the food and the folks! So we decided to hold the meeting on show day along with voting for the "Best CSC Safari" at the show.

Show day dawned gray and soggy. As the cars entered the show field, the rain kept falling. The Pye family stopped by the CS class about 10 AM and asked to be excused from the meeting as they had to begin their homeward trip. What with the rain, the three little ones, the rain, and the long journey ahead, sooner was better than later. So we bid them good-bye and safe travel under the dripping skies.

At 11 AM the CSC people gathered at the CS class. Since the rain was still falling and we had no pressing business to pursue, I handed out paper on which everyone was asked to write the Custom Safari they thought was the best choice for the CSC trophy this year. A waterproof container was placed under the Evanses' Safari and members were asked to put their ballots in the container by 1 PM.

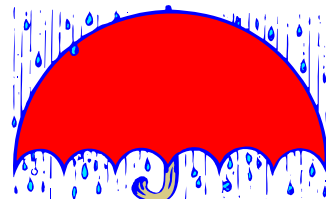
At the appointed hour, Noel and I counted the votes. It was a victory for Gary Parker and his 1955 Firegold and White Mist Custom Safari. With little fanfare I'm afraid, the trophy was given to Gary while the rain drops continued to fall. Congratulations to Gary. His Safari is certainly a beautiful one.

Hopefully at the 2003 POCI Convention in St. Louis the sun will shine brightly on show day, and we'll all be there for the awarding of the CSC trophy to the owner of the Best Custom Safari Chapter Safari at the show.

Status of the Custom Safari Chapter as of September 10, 2002

The Custom Safari Chapter has 46 members and \$986.37 in the bank.

IT'S RAINING



Chapter Meeting - Charleston, WV



Brave members of the Custom Safari Chapter get together for the Chapter Meeting on the day of the show amongst the Safaris.



Car Show Highlites



Front and rear view photos of the Popular Vote Safaris, Luke Miller's '56 Custom Safari (2nd place), Noel and Starr Evan's '57 Custom Safari (1st place), and Jack and Jill White's '57 Transcontinental (3rd place).



Car Show Highlites



*Top: CSC Trophy winner, (displayed on front cover), Gary Parker's '55 Custom Safari.
Bottom: Gary, in the chair, talking with Noel Evans, with the umbrella.*



Car Show Highlites



Top: Mark and Robin Petry didn't bring their '56 Custom Safari, but they did bring this sweet '55 Star Chief Convertible. Bottom: Sorry, but I had to get in a shot of the '69 Judges!!



Car Show Highlites



*Top: Bill Fortune and his convention staff pow-wowing on how to stop the rain!
Bottom: Rich, Matthew, Madison, Paige and Mackenzie Pye sporting Pontiac attire and dodging rain drops in front of the Show Safaris.*



Cruisin' to the Cracker Barrel



*Top: The Breakfast Cruise to the Cracker Barrel, 9 miles from the Convention Center, was lead by the Evans' followed by a caravan of Custom Safari Chapter members.
Bottom: The four Safaris that made the Cruise line up in the Cracker Barrel parking lot.*



Cruisin' to the Cracker Barrel



Top and Bottom: Custom Safari Chapter members get together in mass to talk Pontiacs and eat some good food at the Craker Barrel.



Concept Cars at the Convention



Left: 2004 Grand Prix. This concept car is about 90% of what the actual GP will look like.

Right: I actually forgot to find out what this car was, but I thought it looked pretty neat.



Left: The Sunfire H.O. concept is a real sharp car and has a tough look, unlike the current street version.

“WHAT NUMBER IS THAT SAFARI IN THE WINDOW.....”

by Randy Kerdoon

Seeing that Pontiac saw fit to make just 1,292 Custom Safari Wagons in 1957, chances would seem slim that outside of a Custom Safari Club event, more than just a couple of the cars would be seen at any one place in 2002. That is, unless you were in Santa Clarita, California in July.

The Route 66 Bar and Grill on Soledad Canyon Road, routinely park a classic car INSIDE it's restaurant, right next to the cashier. (Contrary to popular belief, it is not there because: the car's driver took so long with his order at the drive thru, they remodeled the restaurant AROUND his car!! or the parking spot is reserved for the employee of the month...and the car belongs to the cashier! Wow....INSIDE PARKING....now that's an employee of the month perk!)

But let's get back in the real world for a moment, Route 66 shuffles in and out cars every few months, and most recently this 57 Safari wagon, has been parked, prompting a group of Custom Safari Club members to bring their 57's out for a Safari-a-thon!!! Marvin Morton brought out his 57 survivor with the black stripe and luggage rack on the top (#1260 of 1292)...while Michael Green drove his "in-progress" 57 (#1119) while I added my Burgundy and off-white wagon (#303) for the rare triple-play! Club member Tom Young and wife came along without car to add moral support and Safari trivia.

As for the "Safari in the window", it's number 428, and there seemed to be some confusion as to the actual owner. One diner manager said it was owned by a member of the rock group ZZ Top.....later, another wasn't so sure, saying maybe the previous manager mis-spoke and the owner just liked the music of ZZ Top. My guess is the current owner....knew how to SPELL ZZ Top!! In any case, Route 66 holds car shows once a month, (and if they were smart, they'd give a food discount or something to So Cal members of the Custom Safari Club!!)



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 pro-rated quarterly from January 1st. Applicants must be a current member of POCI prior to joining the chapter. Send payment to Starr Evans.

The Safari News is a quarterly publication produced by the chapter. Volume 1, Number 1 was distributed in December of 1993. A limited number of back issues are available. Write for further information.

President: Robin Clark, 668 E20th, San Bernardino, CA 92404
Vice President: Bill Fortune, 11 Lakeview Drive, Nitro, WV 25143
Secretary/Treasurer: Starr Evans, 10 Church Hill Rd, Washington Depot, CT 06794
Editor: Rich Pye, 436 LaDue Rd, Brockport, NY 14420

Directors:
Eastern Region: Lou Calasibetta, Box 1957, Stillwater, NJ 078775
Central Region: Ronn Pittman, 1024 Raddant, Batavia, IL 60510
Western Region: Ed Vassar, 705 B Broadway, Fairfield, CA 94533

For chapter information: Write: 436 LaDue Rd, Brockport, NY 14420, Phone: (585) 637-2720, e-mail: rpye@rochester.rr.com



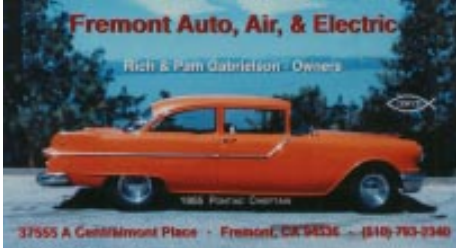
Scale Model Cars
RONN PITTMAN
HOLDER OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST
SCALE MODEL CAR COLLECTIONS
BUILDER - COLLECTOR SINCE 1985
1024 S. RADDANT RD.
BATAVIA, IL 60510-3398 (630) 879-7393



PONTIAC Fremont
WITH EMPHASIS ON THE... '49 - '72
AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS - LITERATURE - SCALE MODELS
RONN PITTMAN
1024 S. RADDANT RD.
BATAVIA, IL 60510-3398 (630) 879-7393

Appraisals by RONN
certified associate IAAA
autos • trucks • toys

RONN PITTMAN
1024 S. RADDANT RD.
BATAVIA, IL 60510-3398
(630) 879-7393
(630) 202-1956 cell



Fremont Auto, Air, & Electric
Rich & Pam Gabrielson - Owners
1964 Pontiac Catalina
37555 A Gentlemont Place • Fremont, CA 94536 • (510) 783-0340