

Our Virtual Nat'l Convention Gathering Is A Hit!

Pontiac-Oakland Club
International, Inc.
(POCI)

Custom Safari Chapter

SUMMER 2020

Volume 24, Number 2

In this issue

- President & Editor Pages
- Chapter Annual Business Report
- Social Media News & Member Briefs
- Local Car Event Updates
- Virtual Convention Gathering
- Technical Tip #8
- New Classifieds Ads



Well, it turns out that a few of you preferred to drag a dead horse across a big field rather than share a photo of you, your family and your Safari wagon. However, everyone else decided to ride the horse! They took some great photos. Take a look in the following pages. Yahoo!

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for this issue. Since the POCI Nat'l Convention was cancelled this year, many of you took to heart the task of sharing some photo so that we can come together through this newsletter.

As impacts from COVID-19 continues to impact our lives, we have found unique ways to pursue our passions with travel, spending time with friends & family and time enjoying our old car hobby. Many have participated in local cruises, small gatherings for lunch, birthday and local first responder appreciation driving parades. It is important that we continue to adapt and maintain our social connections. It is also important that we continue to repair, restore and drive our Safari wagons. So, as our President, Lou Calasibetta recently said, "let's put some miles on our Safari wagons.....and have a good day!"

From the President's Garage

Hello Everyone,

So, here is another great newsletter coming from your Chapter management. Again, it is coming late but that is because we held out for more photos from our members. That was important as we can show a positive side our groupings virtually with photos and with social meetings done safely. We are always interested in seeing current photos of your Safari wagons but remember that your wagon does not have to be a finished ride. We like them in any condition. That's what make them interesting. Take a look in this issue and you will see some wonderful people, great cars all in one newsletter.

Hey members! Our nominations were open to any takers, but no one stepped up to the batter's box. It really is rewarding to help our Chapter. We will have another opportunity next year to see members step-up. If you don't, we risk losing everything that we have built.

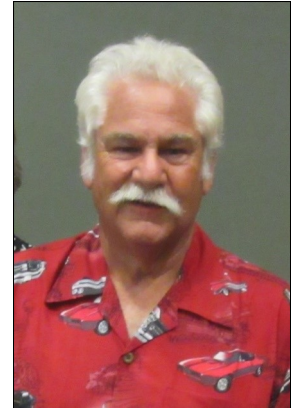
Thanks to Tom for putting in so much time into this newsletter. We can't forget Rich for getting our newsletter mailed out and without Robin, we would not have a Chapter. As for me, I can't remember how long I have been doing the job. I just try to do the best I can until someone comes forward and takes over the President jobs.

I encourage everyone to take your Safari out for a spin before winter comes. It is the best medicine a wagon can receive. A sitting vehicle will always need more repairs than one that is regularly used and maintained. And remember to send photos of your drives with a short note so that we can include it in a future newsletter. Your efforts just make our newsletter more interesting.

I understand that our Facebook group membership has somewhere over 75 members now. That's fantastic! We really want to welcome any members news and old to enjoy the story lines from others. Social media has added another dimension of our Chapter activities. Keeping our presence out there can only make our Chapter a stronger group of the POCI.

Have a good day. Stay safe and be well.

Lou Calasibetta



Member Reminders:

ATTN ALL POCI CHAPTERS

We are in the process of preparing for the 2021 POCI Board of Directors Election. We would like to find out if anyone in your chapter would be interested in running for a position on the Board. They are four-year terms. Most business is handled via email. However, you are expected to attend a day long meeting each year at the convention. If you are interested please contact:

Gale Menger, Committee Chair
Email: gmenger@frontier.com



Under the Hood with the Editor

Hello Everyone!

Over the last few months, I have taken the opportunity to call or email many Chapter members. My purpose was to ask for photos, but I really enjoyed learning that everyone is well and managing the impacts of COVID-19.

I want to thank everyone who were able to send photos in for publication in this newsletter. Nearly 60% of our membership participated! Your photos are greatly appreciated. Because the collection of photos was a monumental task, the printed version of this newsletter is going to arrive late.

This issue will not include a report on the West Coast Wounded Warrior car show for the benefit of the **Semper Fi Fund**. Just like with most big car events throughout most of our Country, the show was cancelled by local city officials. COVID-19 hospitalizations and social distancing restrictions were factors that led City officials to cancel the show permit. Instead of attending the show, Chapter members gathered for a very tasty lunch Bob Garacohea's hobby shop in El Segundo, CA. Having a lunch gathering gave everyone something to look forward in lieu of just staying home. Look for our full lunch activity report in this newsletter.

Our Chapter keeps growing! Welcome our new Safarians: **Terry Schnurbursch**, **Donald Livesey**, **Stefan & Agnetha Klingzell**, and **Bill & Sherri Miller**. We also now have over 85 members is our Facebook site. New posts are now averaging about 3 to 5 per week so if you NOT joined our Facebook site, you are missing on some of the latest cars and parts for sale, questions/answers about repair & restoration, social activities and a lot of great photos. Check us out at: **CSC—Custom Safari Chapter**.

Since nobody accepted a nomination to any of our available Chapter positions, our current members will continue for another year. However, please be forewarned at we cannot continue our duties indefinitely. Our Chapter may face eventual disbandment if people do not step forward to help.

Has anyone noticed that after many years of silence, our Chapter has submitted an article in the SMOKE SIGNALS Chapter News section? Our first article advises readers that our Chapter is active and growing. Our most recent submittal is a short story on Chapter members who gathered in Southern California for a lunch.

One last note. Our **Chapter dues** target date is **January 1st, 2021**. The deadline is only a few months away. Please help Robin by sending in your dues early this year. We now will accept **Pay Pal** for dues payment. If you have a Pay Pal account, you can pay electronically by sending \$21 to: petryfamily@yahoo.com. Otherwise, please send your checks early if you can to Robin Petry. **Dues are \$21**. Robin's mail address can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Thank you.

Please stay healthy and enjoy the FALL season.

Tom



1956 Pontiac railway wagon. This is a reproduction vehicle based of the one that the Northern Nevada Railway used between Carlson & Virginia Cities in Nevada.



Left: While cruising the web, POCI member Ron Huddy found a set of photos of something he has never seen..... a 1956 Safari wagon table!

The artistic table has a "interior" shelf accessible through the windows.

Please dig-out your old photos of yourself or your cars back in your "early" days and send them to your editor.

Thank you Ron for this great photo!

Chapter Annual Report

Although our Annual Chapter Meeting was cancelled, our Secretary/Treasurer, Robin Petry, is still tasked with providing us with an annual report on the financial status and business of our Chapter. Robin is the “glue” that keeps our Chapter running efficiently. She invests her spare time in welcoming new members and keeping us current with our dues. She tracks our contact information and pays our bills for publishing our newsletter. Here is Robin’s report:



Custom Safari Chapter Meeting Minutes POCI National Meeting, 07/09/20, Catoosa, OK

MEETING WAS CANCELLED.

Secretary/Treasurer’s report on membership, dues, and status: 2020

- Our 2019 national meeting minutes will be presented during our meeting in 2021 for review and approval.

Treasury Balance: 07/19/2019 starting balance was \$1784.90. Income was \$2579.96 (\$1944.75 Dues, \$619 t-shirts, \$4 donation, \$12 maintenance fee added back, \$0.21cents (checking acct interest). Expenses = \$2311.20 (\$1554.00) 4 newsletters and postage, \$144.12 2019 convention expenses of 2 Best Safari plaques and snacks, \$38.08 for envelopes and tape, \$75 for Website fee, \$500 repayment to Robin Petry for advanced payment on t-shirts). Ending balance as of 10/6/2020 is \$2053.50.

- **Membership:** July 2019 we had 91 members and as of 10/6/2020 we have 96 members.
- **Newsletter Editor’s Report:** Tom Young will continue to produce 4 quarterly newsletters a year with usually 16 pages but the Summer issue will stay at 24 pages. He has expanded the Classified section and News section with outside resources and articles from Chapter members. He is helping some members write stories about the Safari experiences.
- **Old Business:** Chapter members please send any changes to their mailing address or email address. We don’t want you to miss any newsletters or updates.
- **New Business:** Chapter officers have been discussing the idea of opening up another payment option for - dues paying members through the internet. **PayPal** is a long-established electronic funds transfer service which is still used by eBay and many other vendors. A service fee is charged for transfers which may result in a small increase in our dues of about \$1 per year. If you would like to use PayPal for payment, please let me know. Call me at **(706) 736-3392** or email me at: **petrymail@yahoo.com**. If there is enough interest, we will officially adopt PayPal as a payment option for our annual dues.
- Nobody accepted a nomination to a Chapter official position so we will stay with the same folks one more year. Remember that we can hold the same positions forever. If two or more of us step down, that may spell the end of our great Chapter so seriously think about helping us before we get to a place that we don’t want to go.
- Tom has followed-up with providing Chapter news updates in the Smoke Signals POCI monthly magazine. So far this year, we have two Chapter articles in the magazine.
- Nobody has commented about expanding our social media exposure to Twitter or Instagram so no actions will be taken to make our Chapter known in those social media sites.
- **Facebook:** Membership in our public Facebook page has grown to 85 members. A majority are dues paying member of our Chapter. Some are eventually signing up so that they can receive our full color quarterly newsletter and support our t-shirt project. Tom reports that more parts and cars are being sold through social media than on Craig’s List. There are no local market fees unlike eBay or from old car publications such as Hemmings Motor News. You can find weekly updates on Safari wagons on our Facebook page at CSC-Custom Safari Chapter.

In the News

Safari Number Count & Cowl Tag Research Project: So just how many 1955-57 Safari exist today in any condition? Variations of this question has existed likely since when our Safari wagons were new. But today, many folks remain curious to know just how rare they Safari wagons really are in comparison to other vintage cars. Well, for over two years, Wheeler Bradley has collected cowl tag body production numbers of 1957 Pontiac Custom Safari wagons. He recently has extended his efforts to include 1955 and 1956 Custom Safari wagons. Wheeler's best success has been with social media. He manages the *1957 Custom Safari* Facebook site that he uses as a medium for collecting cowl tag information. Please submit the cowl tag body number & year of your Safari to Wheeler at your convivence. Remember to include numbers of cowl tags that you may have found in wrecking yards, barns, shops, garages, or car shows. Thank you!

Contact **Wheeler Bradley** at : wheeler.bradley@salve.edu or on Facebook at: *1957 Custom Safari*.



This Safari was part of the former '57 Heaven Collection long before it sold at the Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale 2020 auction for \$42,900. Some Chapter members including Luke Miller have personally seen this nicely restored wagon at the auction. It resides in St. Louis, MO and offered on eBay for \$59,000 the *Classic Car Studio*. They are the same people who are featured on "Speed is the New Black" TV series.

Lot #937.1 1957 PONTIAC STAR CHIEF CUSTOM SAFARI TRANSCONTINENTAL

Auction	Scottsdale 2020
Location	Tent 4 D-38
Reserve	NO RESERVE
Status	Sold
Price	\$42,900.00
Lot	937.1
Year	1957
Make	PONTIAC



now was by



Posted on Facebook on 02-08-20 by Terry Gartner—POCI Classifieds.

"I was at the Webster Florida car show and flea market today. This'll is not my car! But I think it was the best car at the show. The phone number is on one of the pictures. I would love to redo this car, if I had the money, the time, and all that other stuff that you need." The window sign is hard to read. It shows \$12,500 OBO (797) or (727) 209-0057



Brooklin's New "Pink" Collection Safari

Just when you think that Brooklin Models was done with the 1957 Custom Safari 2 dr wagon, they have thrown a big surprise to collectors. Introducing the all new "Pink Collection" Safari wagon! As of early September, the Pink Safari is available for "pre-order", meaning that you pay now and receive the model shortly after production has started. A limited number of Pink Safari wagons were already distributed earlier this year. It was a surprise hit so Brooklin Models is moving forward with making this stunning model available to collectors who missed the first release. Also, the Fountaine Blue & Kenya Ivory '57 Safari is now available again. The price is \$231.34 plus shipping for each model. You can pre-order your Pink Safari by going to the Brooklin Models website at www.brooklinmodels.com or you might find one of those early release models for sale on eBay or on social media. Remember that this model is highly detailed, correct to scale and hand made. Starr & Noel Evan's '57 Safari Custom 2 dr was the real Safari used by Brooklin to produce their accurate, limited production Safari wagon models.



Safarians Gather at "Bobby's Shop in El Segundo

Impacts from Covid-19 forced the cancellation of our West Coast meet at the Wounded Warrior Car show in Redondo Beach CA but that did not stop Safarians from gathering at Bob Garacochea's shop. With the August record breaking heat wave in full swing, seven Safarians were happy to enjoy the cool ocean breeze that flowed over Bob's newly remodeled shop. If visual first impressions are important to you, then you will be knocked-off your feet by your first view of Bob's shop. Custom doors, windows, an artistic wall façade, historic bakery dough mixing tubs and more will tell you that Bob's shop is something beyond the ordinary.

Also, beyond the ordinary was the food supplied by Bob's *Bay Cities Deli & Bakery* of Santa Monica, CA. He brought several kinds of sandwiches and side plates to make a most tasty, outstanding lunch experience.

Since Safari wagons were not required for this informal gathering, Mike Green brought his gorgeous '58 Chieftain 2 dr sedan that sports a factory 3-speed stick transmission and Tri-Power. Since new member Rich Diehm is working hard on his '55 Safari, he brought his outstanding '64 Chevy convertible, complete with an great looking original interior. The car came out of long-term storage in PA. Rich had some mechanical work along with a new paint and chrome work recently completed. The car looks factory fresh! Marvin Morton brought his reliable '57 Safari that has become one of the best-known Safari wagons on the West Coast.

Tom Young brought his fully restored, modified and ready to install '57 Pontiac fuel injection (FI) unit to share with members. Nobody had never seen an FI unit in person. At shows, the FI unit is hidden by a painted black cover. Bob explained some of the features of the FI unit which amazed some Safarians.

Also amazing was experiencing a quick tour of a shop next door which housed a rare Malibu wagon that looked more like an updated Safari.

Plans are for another gathering within the next 6 to 8 months.



Top Right: Marvin Morton's very original '57 Safari in front of Bob's shop.

Above Right: Safarians listen as Bob talks about Pontiac fuel injection for 1957. Bob restored one of the best '57 Bonneville's in the USA back in the 90s.

Far Right: A super rare 1964 Chevy Malibu 2 wagon. Notice the pillar and side window shapes. Looks familiar? Hum.....



Continental Kit Safari—What the heck?

Need a second spare for your wagon? Well, here is a solution for you! Just add a “continental” tire kit to your wagon and you are back on the road in style.

What? You’re asking how does the tail gate go down? Well, that’s a million-dollar question. Does the tire pivot down or does it pull-up and to the side? And when it does move one way or the other, can you still drop the gate down enough to get access to the cargo area? So many questions, so few answers! But perhaps answers will come. You see, Tim Dye (Director of the Pontiac-Oakland Museum & Resource Center) sent your editor a batch of pictures for an assessment. Although many photos were not of high resolution, there are visual clues that indicate that the installation was done post factory production and likely during the period in which this Safari was restored.



Tim allowed Tom to publish a series of photos on our Chapter’s Facebook page as well as the POCI and 1957 Pontiac Facebook pages. More than two hundred people liked the photos and submitted over 100 comments. Go to our Facebook page to see the plethora of responses. Some comments are very entertaining!

There is limited information about this Safari’s history, owners, location, or restoration story. But perhaps sometime the future, Tim Dye may tell us more about this unique and mysterious Safari wagon.



Carl’s ‘57 Safari “Purple People Eater” Safari is Available



In a recent exchange of emails between Tom Young and Carl Loftis, Carl casually mentioned that his ‘57 Safari is available for sale. The door of opportunity has opened for anyone interested in buying an air conditioned, customized Safari wagon that is ready for the road. Carl drove his Safari from Michigan to the Wisconsin Dells to attend the POCI National Convention of 2018. He said that it drove great and he did not have any problems during his trip. This Safari has just over 7,000 miles since the rebuild in 2000. It has a 428 engine with disk brakes.



Anybody interested in more details such as build specifications and price should contact Carl at:

**(231) 690-0429
(EST)**



It does not get any better for Custom Safari Chapter member Jack Johnson. In 2013, he was on a 6,000 mile road with his 1955 Safari when he drove through Monument Valley. He pulled over for an great picture with an iconic American landscape in the background. While this picture was being taken, a father & son touring the area stopped to appreciate Jack's Safari. They had never seen a Safari wagon. Jack let them sit in the car to get a feel of old American road iron. The experience was a highlight of their travels!



Len here. I had enjoyed the Fall 2019 newsletter when you sent it to me back in November, but there probably was no reason for any of the content to stick with me going forward. I just happened to re-read it today and I was totally shocked to see the picture of Big T in there. I'm not generally into those things, so that's another reason I hadn't recalled it when I ran into Big T in January. As you may (or may not) know from a few references in Smoke Signals over the past number of years, I've been a driver at the Mecum Kissimmee auction for the last 9 years. This year I got assigned to a Big T that was there. Whether it is an original or some clone, I can't say, but I had the opportunity to drive it from the pre-staging area over to the staging lanes. Didn't get to take it over the auction block though. It sold for only \$17.5K. However, while I was sitting in it I did get the chance to take a couple of selfies along with my new friend, the skull shifter knob. I had to send these along as soon as I re-read the Safari News this morning. **Editor's note:** Len Sokol is an early member of our Chapter, famous for owning two 56 Safari wagons; one of which now belongs to another Chapter member.



Facebook Post by Luke Miller June, 2020 : [Luke Kathy Leigh Miller](#) Hi Tom, Brian and I have known each other for years. His Safari is from Oklahoma and he bought it from Kurt Kelsey in the 1990s. These pictures were taken last year at the Pontiac Riverside Rally in Kaukauna, Wisconsin. Both cars have factory air, leather seating and grill guard. Brian's car was Avalon Blue and Nimbus Grey, mine is Catalina Blue and Nimbus Grey.



Nutmeg Chapter Safarians Hit The Road



Nurses

Appreciation

Rev. Anderson at Masonicare asked if we would bring our car and one other to help celebrate Nurses Appreciation Day with a parade of vehicles at the Masonicare facility in Wallingford. The route was shortened as the Police and Fire departments were not able to attend but the residents of the huge facility



Day

were happy to see us as we drove by them honking our horns as they rang bells and waved.



The Masonicare facility has independent living, assisted living and in-patient housing for the residents. It is so much bigger than what we see when

we hold our shows there by the medical building.

Jack and Jill White drove Tonto, their 1957 Transcontinental and we drove our '57 Safari.



We were also there to thank the day care staff as they provide a vital service that allows the nurses to go to work.

The children seemed happy to see the parade. They smiled and waved especially as we tooted our horns!



Our Virtual National Convention Gathering



July 7th through the 11th long has passed and so has our opportunity to have gathered in the mid-west for another annual POCI National Convention. Due to COVID-19 impacts, we will have to wait until 2022 to make our journey to Catoosa, OK. Meanwhile, we have all worked hard to understand and respond to the impacts in our lives due to the emergence of COVID-19. We have all experienced changes as we continue our lives.

Our National Convention site has been impacted by Covid-19. In July of this year, their large parking lot big-screens where messaging warnings and requests to take precautions. The lots were nearly empty. Employees were wearing masks and customers were asked to wear masks too. It seems that the fun and freedom that we once took for granted was gone.

With no opportunity for us to gather at in Catoosa, one of the best alternatives is to create a photo gathering of our membership. This is a monumental task requiring many emails, phone calls, and text messages. After a few months of work, we can present to you for the first time in our Chapter's history, a virtual photo gathering of most members of our nation-wide and international Chapter. For those who were not able to send photos, we will miss you on this event but hope that you can share pictures sometime in the future.

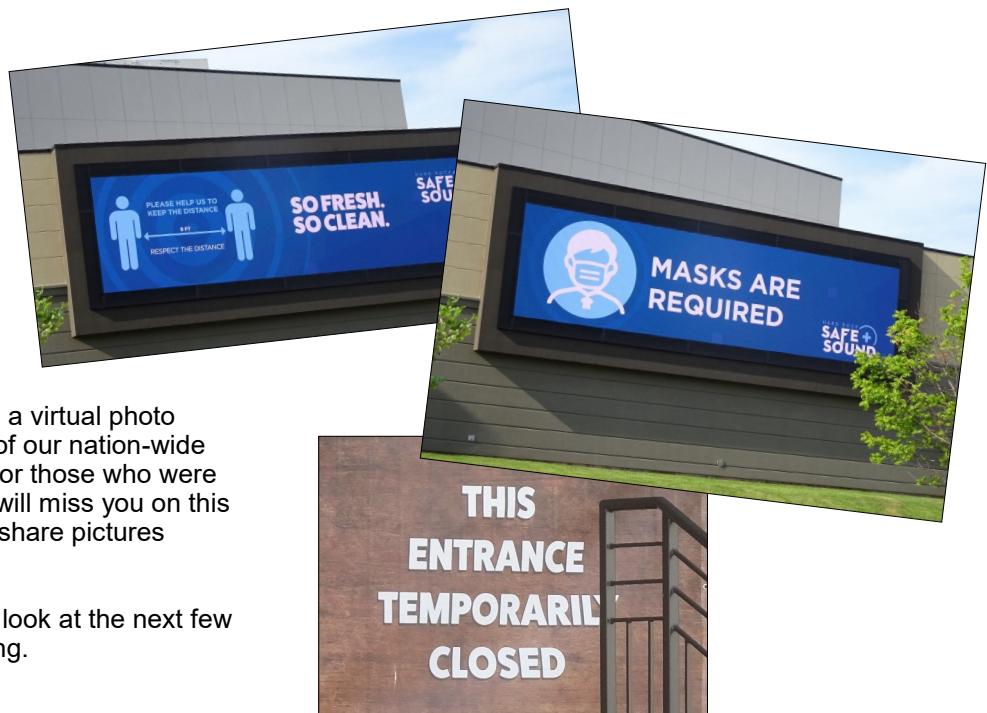
Without further delay, take a look at the next few pages and enjoy our gathering.



Hey! Where is everybody?

In the background: The Hard Rock Casino & Resort, Catoosa, OK. Selfie taken on July 10th, 2020

Your fearless editor is shown in front of the Hard Rock Casino on the day of the POCI Nat'l Convention Judged-Points show. Nobody was there but Tom! He happened to be passing by the casino while on his way to his home in Kansas. He scouted the area. Looks like a great venue!



The Custom Safari Chapter's VPG

(Virtual Photo Gathering)



Super Grand Kids



Bill & Glad Baquet surrounded by the their loving family.



Rich, Paige, (Madison & Michael Bailey), Mackenzie & Matthew Pye shown at the conclusion of Madison and Michael's wedding which was planned and executed in only one week!



The Pety Family.



Richard Nemechek & family.



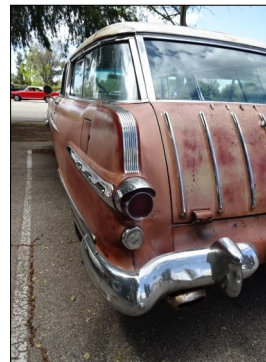
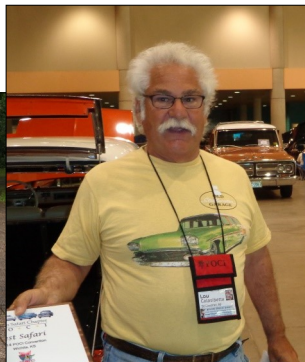
LarsIngvar Elofsson



Starr & Noel Evans



Lou Calasibetta



Aspen & Autumn Pittman



Chuck Scott with his '56 Safari at the North St. Paul car show.



Carolyn & Floyd Huffman



Harold & Carol Cary's '55 Safari recently carrying food for the Harvest Food Bank.

Right: Harold is in a bee outfit unloading honey supers to be extracted. He has been beekeeping for 40 years!



Barry Zalesky



Tom & Linda Kelly with their '56 Safari at a recent picnic.



Susie & Cornel Fitch with grand daughter, Sonoma.



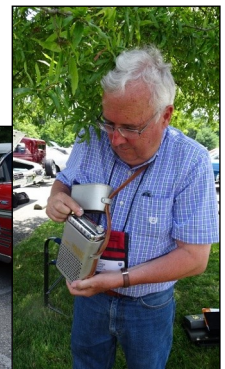
Jim and Sandy Bowers



Ray Goode



George Weaver





Steve & Cindy Blythe



Carl Loftis



Roy & Eloise Nollkamper



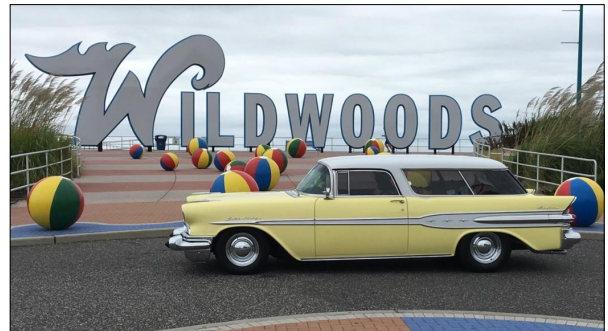
Mike Green & Marvin Morton



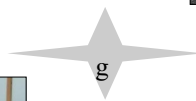
Jan Grenda



Jack Johnson



Gary Blake NJ



John Bonoyer, Allen Hejl, and Paul Bonoyer



Rich Plastino





Bill Platt II: Acc loaded '55



John Hartman's '55



Mike Gomez



Rich & Pam Gabrielson



Randy Kerdoon



Wilf Kaszanits



Larry Gordon



Mike, Jackson & Teresa LaCombe



Ron Walker



Carol & Bill Walkinshaw



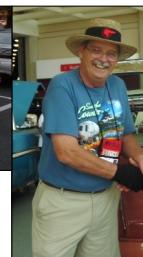
Brenda & Ed Vassar



Dennis & Bonnie Statz



Don Bisson



Larry & Erma Smith's '57



Joshua & Kristina Hirst's '55



Danny Arant



Barry Freeman



Dennis Dana's '56



Steve & Andrea Cook with Lou



Luke, Kathleen, Jenni, & Luke Miller



John & Angela Stirewalt's former '57 TC



Donald Livesey's '56



Rick Diehm

**FACEBOOK
Group Members (selected members)**



Leevon Grant



Michael John Bakotich



Scott Marshall



Darvin Nehk



Carla & Dan Dickey



Jan & Glynn Rowley



Bill Logan



Brian Bettinger



Bob Garacochea



Tim O'Donnell



Rich Grob



Sherri & Bill Miller



Richard Hanson

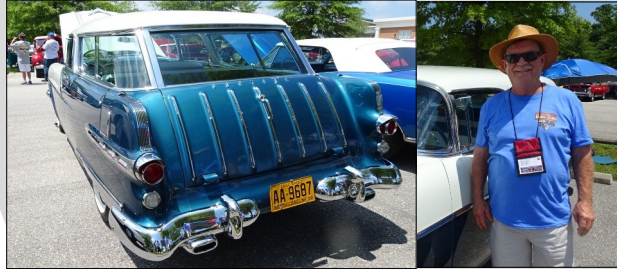




Robin Clark



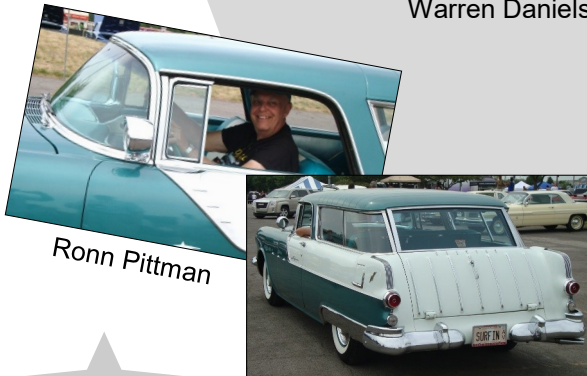
Lee & Ruth Hadley



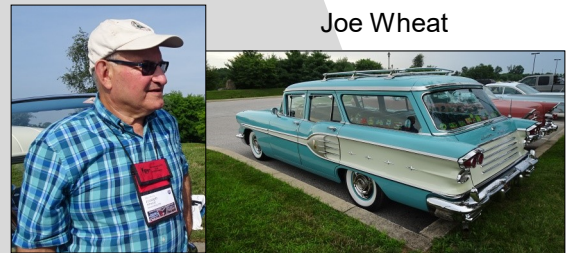
Warren Daniels



Joe Wheat



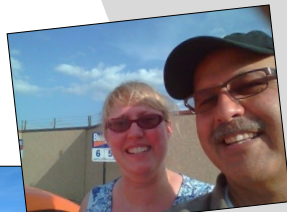
Ronn Pittman



Jill & Jack White



Summer & Tom Young



Kelly Woods

And so ends our virtual gathering of Safarians!

For the first time in our Chapter's history, we have attempted to include as many members as possible in our newsletter. For those who could not participate, let's work on getting you and your wagon into a future newsletter if you like.

Our gathering does not replace seeing each other in person. We can never replace our emotions of seeing a beautiful Safari wagon in person. The good news is we will once again meet in person. Hopefully, that time will be sometime next year. Until then, our gathering serves as a reminder that we are large band of Safarians who are dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of our wagons.

Technical Tip #8



At A Glance...

Above image taken from the November, 1956 issue of the Pontiac Service Craftsman News

When it leaks, apply more torque to seal it. Right?

Not always! In fact, rarely does an old car need extra torque for anything leaking. The leak is likely due to aged components from materials made of cork, plastic, or rubber. Worst yet, some components could be wrapped or cracked from excessive heat/cold or wear.

When it comes to tightening down the top lid of your power steering pump, caution is urged. The lid may have its original ring seal that is now over a half-century old. No wonder why it's leaking! Sometimes adding a bit more torque can compress the old seal just enough to stop the power steering fluid from leaking but more likely, if you keep applying torque on the hold-down bolt, you will either crack the lid or the fluid intake manifold. They are inherently weak because they are made of cast metal. They can break easily!

The bottom line..... **If your power steering unit is leaking fluid from the lid and it has an old gasket, REPLACE IT. Don't torque it!**

One clue of an old or excessively worn gasket is the appearance of compression on the gasket contact surface. As the lid is tighten, the gasket is compressed against the edge of the reservoir housing. Overtime, excessively compressed gaskets will fail. So, replace the gasket rather than over tightening the lid hold-down bolt. Replacement gaskets can be found from a few sources listed below.

Remember to change the PS fluid regularly. The fluid needs replacement more often than you think. Clean the reservoir too. You will likely find a fine coating of grime; a result of parts wearing and lack of fluid changes in a timely manner. While you are at it, look at the pump manifold. Don't be surprised if it's cracked. Finding a replacement can be a bit of a challenge. You might find one in a used pump or be on the look-out for a NOS one; Saginaw 55-58, Manifold, # 5683874.



Above & Left: A '57 Pontiac power steering pump.



Above: A cracked manifold due to over torqueing. They usually fail after they start of cracking. It does not take much to destroy one so be careful folks!

Quick Reference:

Power Steering Pump Reservoir Lid Gasket & Manifold

Where to buy: eBay, social media or rebuild service providers such as LARS Corp, MN.

Estimate Cost: GASKETS from \$8.00 to \$22.00, new; MANIFOLDS, used from \$10 to about \$25; \$35 to about \$60 for NOS.

How to apply: **Manifold:** Open the lid. Drain the fluid. I use a turkey baster. Inspect the manifold which is sitting on the bottom of the reservoir. If it looks cracked, it is! Use a 3/8 socket to remove the 4 bolts holding down the manifold to the reservoir housing. Check for fit including the 4 manifold bolts and thread size/fit of the hold-down bolt. With installing a new gasket, initially apply about 5 to 7 lbs of torque to the cover bolt. The cover should fit snug. Adjust torque accordingly. Compression of the gasket over time will require another torque adjustment; likely in a few months.

CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources.
Owners may not be chapter members.



SOLD!

“My father-in-law, Richard, has been sick with terminal cancer for several years and finally past the point of chemo being beneficial. Sadly COVID has ruined his last summer of car shows as I don't think he'll see another one. Over the past few years we've got to know some of this group and its been amazing! He's finally ready to sell his baby and let the next person enjoy it. Sadly, that can't be me but want to see it go to a good home. He's open to offers if anyone is looking or you know someone who is.” **Richard 785-769-6262 (KS)** or email: **carolnemechek@yahoo.com (CSC)**

1957 Pontiac Safari. Open to offers. This is Richard Nemechek's Safari that he has owned since the 70s. His son-in-law has posted the Safari on social media advising that Richard is open to offers.



1955 Pontiac Safari. \$22,650 2dr Safari wagon, rare original survivor, hard to find, original leather interior, shows 70,xxx miles, rear sliding windows, good glass, nice stainless trim and fender skirts, numbers matching 287 V8 auto, runs and drives. **Country Classic Cars 618 635-7056 Staunton, Illinois** www.countryclassiccars.com

Editor's Note: HMN Ad. This Safari was previously advertised by a private seller on HMN for \$19,000. (Non-CSC member).



1957 Pontiac Safari. \$22,500 Was on display in a Florida museum, so the miles are believed to be original. One repaint approximately 3 years ago with rust repair performed on the floor pan, rear hatch, and tailgate. Chrome is original as well as interior upholstery with the exception of new carpet in the front passenger area. New Edelbrock Performer 1411 750 CFM carburetor. Custom built aluminum gas tank with new sending unit. New shocks, Rebuilt engine. Recent transmission rebuild. Fully serviced with recent tune-up and oil change. This vehicle is stored in our Aiken, SC climate controlled warehouse. We do not do consignment. The inventory shown is 100% owned, maintained, and driven by us. **Car Cave USA 803-262-4742** Video at: <https://youtu.be/mXDqsQ0MqAE> *Editor's Note. Take a close look at the video. From HMN. (Non-CSC member)*



CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources.
Owners may not be chapter members.



1956 Pontiac Safari \$69,000. My '56 is a total ground-up restoration. It's an AACA first and second place Grand National award winner too. Power steering, power brake, 389, automatic trans, front & rear bumper guards, fender skirts, factory spot light. Nothing spared. Every nut and bolt replaced, all new or rebuilt suspension. I've really spent a lot of time and money so want it to go to someone else that really appreciates the Safari. Call **Don 256-520-6183**. Located in **Huntsville, Alabama**. (CSC member)



1956 Pontiac Safari. \$57,500 OBO. Body # 1774. This wagon is loaded! Power brakes, power steering, deluxe windshield washer, under hood light, front & rear bumper guards, lighted hood ornament, compass, wonder bar radio, floor mats, electric rear antenna, wire wheel covers and a six-way front seat. This is a well done restoration on a Safari that looks great and runs well. There was a bit of rust on the body prior to restoration but repair work was done very well. One of the best features is the attention to detail under the hood and throughout the Safari wagon. Nearly everything is restored perfectly factory correct! This Safari is ready to roll down the road or win a trophy at car shows. For more details, contact the owner, **Mike at 805 441-5155 Pismo Beach, CA.** *Editor's Note: This ready to enjoy wagon was once owned by Bob Johnson, our Chapter's newsletter editor from the 1980s. Bob can trace the wagon's history back to the 1970s!*



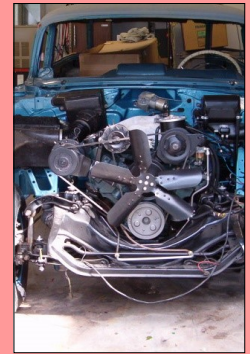
1955 Pontiac Safari. \$6,500 Body #1469 Project car for sale. PS, PB, factory AC, electric rear antenna, rear bumper guards, under hood light. Cowl tag code: ACC BGIKN. I have no title. Bill of sale only. For information and more photos, contact: **John Hartman 661-301-6944** or hartman.bustersan.john@gmail.com *Editor's Note: This car is in Bakersfield, CA (CSC member)*

CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources.
Owners may not be chapter members.



1957 Pontiac Star Chief Custom Safari "Transcontinental" 4 dr wagon. \$59,900. This particular example underwent a frame-up restoration in the 1990s and was a feature at the 1957 Heaven Museum. The entire '57 Heaven Museum was sold by Mecum in 2009 and this particular car sold at "no reserve" for 80k. **Classic Car Studio. 314 567 4200 St. Louis, MO info@classiccarstudio.com**



1957 Pontiac Safari. \$90,000 Negotiable. Body #992. Fontaine Blue & Kenya Ivory. 347 V8, auto trans, PS, PB, Tri-Power, & factory AC. Frame off, nut & bolt restoration. Museum quality (in my opinion a 9 out of 10). Have pictures of all phases of restoration. All factory NOS parts were used. Also have all factory dealer option books. Very well documented from start to finish. Your inspection or any independent inspections are welcome. Any questions please ask, I'll be happy to answer any and all that you have. This Safari is ready to roll down the road or win a trophy at car shows. For more details, contact the new owner **Allen 512-905-3038**. If no answer please leave a brief message along with a phone # and best time to call. Car is located in **Thorndale, Texas**. *Editor's Note: This Safari was a long and steady restoration by two well-known Pontiac enthusiast and brothers (John and Paul Bonoyer) who are who have now entrusted the safe keeping of their prized possession to a long time friend. This is an opportunity to buy one of the best. (CSC member)*



SOLD!



1957 Pontiac Safari. \$59,500 Body #807. Private collector is selling his beloved 1957 Pontiac Star Chief Custom Safari 2-door wagon in the rare original Limefire green. It is in excellent condition with many original parts. This car has been very well cared for...looks and drives great. Speedometer over at 100K, mileage is not known. HMN (949) 374-3020 (Non-CSC member) *(SOLD to a new owner in the greater San Fernando Valley of Calif).*

BEST RETAILER BUYS

1955-58 Pontiac replacement gas shocks. Fronts from \$16 each, rears from approx. \$21 each. The *Rock Auto* store on the internet. www.rockauto.com

Please note that prices and availability are subject to change. Verify prices before ordering.

PARTS FOR SALE

1955-56 Safari gas tank:

Reproduction. C523696R
\$399 plus \$35 shipping.
This tank will fit all 57
Safari wagons with minor
modifications. Call Rich
for a kit. **1956 1958
Pontiac And Safari**



Interior Dome Lamp Bezel, C4610313B
Repro. \$10.40 plus \$5.30 shipping. Contact

California Pontiac Restoration (CPR). 714 245-9800 PST



1957 Pontiac : 2 door Safari rolling stock chassis. Contact Paul Ronald 480-290-1596



1955 Pontiac chrome center bar, 3 pieces, **NOS: 1957 Pontiac** for TC wgn: rear 1/4 mldg extensions (horse shoes), used; headrest, faded, used; left rear wheel opening mldg, mint; rear 1/4 panel aluminum panels, need to be polished, used; luggage rack, top rails and bottom cargo strips, top rails need to be plated, **NOS: 1958 Pontiac:** Back-up lamp assy. NOS, left & right hand sides. \$300 pr. Or trade for a nice 1957 Pontiac right front fender. **John OH 1 740 296-9638**

1957 Pontiac Standard Deluxe radio.

Tested and works loud and clear. Nice face plate and dial indicator. Tubes tested & replaced as needed, switches cleaned, button selector mechanism adjusted, reception sensitivity adjusted. Comes with full set of knobs & bezels. Your choice, Chieftain/ Super Chief or Star Chief. \$100.00 with free shipping. **1957 Carter 4 barrel carburetor**, rebuilt. \$285 with free shipping. 1957 Pontiac single pulley harmonic balancer from a running engine; used, good. \$45 plus shipping. **(SOLD)** 1958 Safari tail light housing, driver side, for plating. \$10 plus shipping. 1958 Pontiac clock chrome bezel. Good condition. \$20 plus shipping. 1958 Pontiac speedometer assembly, working. \$85 plus shipping. 1958 T-3 3 prong headlight, works. \$15 plus shipping. 1958 headlight retaining ring, stainless, \$5 ea plus shipping. Tom Young, 204 Acacia, Newbury Park, CA 91320 805 375-1320 PST or email at: pontiactom@ix.netcom.com.



WANTED

1957 Pontiac: AC components that mount to engine, brackets, compressor, condenser, etc. Rich Pye. rype@rochester.rr.com

1957 Pontiac : Looking for a 1957 or a 1958 wagon. 2 or 4 door. Complete as possible or mostly. Original with the drive train. Does run or will run. Not a show car but a light project. I have no place for a car in pieces. Or what do you have? Any help will be greatly appreciated. Call **John** at 417-894-5699 or email at hotrod34pontiac@gmail.com

1957 Custom Safari 2 dr wagon. Prefer decent driver but will consider builders. Not looking for a 400 point show car but something that I can drive or fix without a lot of heartache. Leads also appreciated. Contact **Jan** at mini55@zoominternet.net or call at 724-295-3785. EST

FOR SALE



Two 1957 Custom Safari 2 dr wagons. The silver Safari is offered with all of the parts needed at 17K.. Solid car.



Rich has gone through the wagons and can answer your questions. He also sells a wide variety of mechanical and body parts for Pontiacs including the mid to late 50s.



Contact **Rich** at (714) 245-800 or rich@pontiacparts.net
PST

TO PLACE AN AD: Looking to sell parts or a car? Send your request to Tom Young at pontiactom@ix.netcom.com. Your ad should be related to '55 to '58 Pontiacs and include photos when possible.

POCI Chapter #10

www.customsafari.org

Dedicated to the limited production 1955 through 1958 Pontiac Custom Safari wagons. The Custom Safari Chapter is an official international specialty chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club, International, Incorporated. The POCI headquarters address is P.O. Box 421, Long Lake, MN 55356, USA. Website: www.poci.org

Anyone with interest in Safari wagons can join. Annual dues are \$21.00. Renewals are due January 1st of each year. New member dues are pro-rated quarterly from January 1st. Applicants are encouraged to maintain membership in the POCI. Send payment to the Secretary/Treasurer, Robin Petry. petryfamily@gmail.com

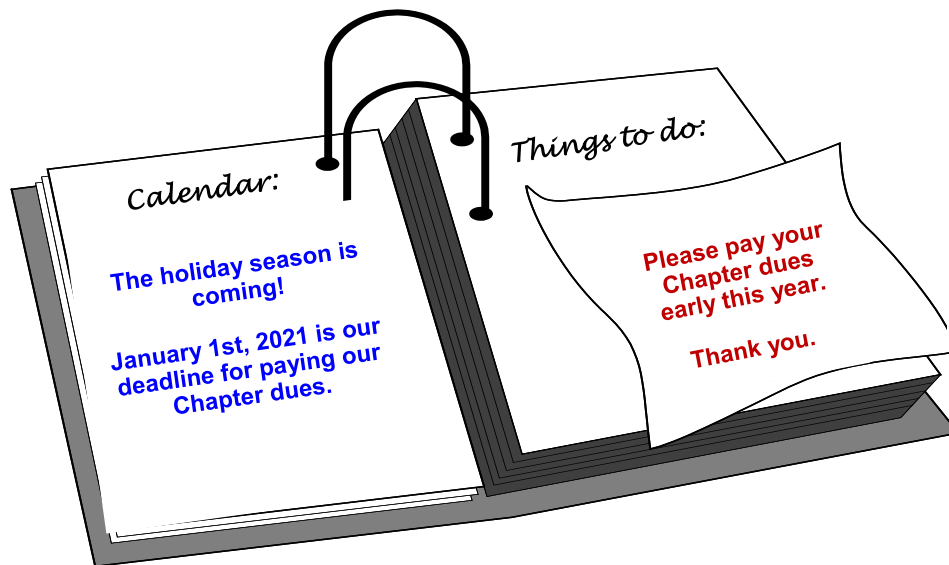
The *Safari News* is a quarterly publication produced by the Chapter. Volume 1, Number 1 was distributed in June, 1977. Distribution was reset as Volume 1, Number 1 in December, 1993. A limited number of back issues may be available. For additional information, contact the editor, Tom Young; 805 375-1320 or by email at pontiactom@ix.netcom.com

The Chapter website can be found at; www.customsafari.org Find us on Facebook: [CSC Custom Safari Chapter](#)

President: Lou Calasibetta, Box 1957, Stillwater, NJ 07875..... (973) 383-2001
Vice President: Rich Pye, 436 LaDue Rd, Brockport, NY 14420 (585) 637-2720
Secretary/Treasurer: **Robin Petry, 2806 Scarlett Dr, Augusta, GA 30909.... (706) 736-3392**
Editor: Tom Young, 204 Acacia Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320 (805) 375-1320

Directors:
Eastern Region: Lou Calasibetta, Box 1957, Stillwater, NJ 078775
Central Region: Ronn Pittman, 1024 Raddant, Batavia, IL 60510
Western Region: Ed Vassar, PO Box 171, Dunnigan, CA 95937

TOPFLIGHT
Professional Digital Lab



In the next issue of *SAFARI NEWS*...

Our FALL issue will feature our member's stories, literature reproductions, technical tips, market values and more social media news. Look for new Classified Ads too.