

2017 POCI Convention Overview

Pontiac-Oakland
Club International,

Custom Safari Chapter

Summer/Fall 2017

Volume 21, Number 3

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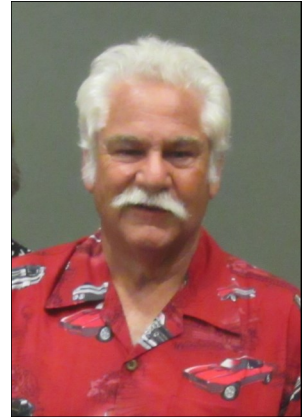
Above: Current Safarians gather at a POCI National meet in Fort Worth Texas, 2017.

In the last issue we brought you the original chapter newsletter information and the original POCI Convention. In this issue we will have photos and information from this year's convention. Technology has changed a lot, so we all benefit from color photos and CLEAR photos, which the chapter didn't have for a long time. So enjoy what we have to share and hopefully we will see you next year in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

From the President's Garage

Hello members.....

This is our first newsletter after the POCI Fort Worth Convention. For all of those members, new and old I want to thank you for joining us in Texas this year. As I recall this was the hottest get together we ever had. I am talking about the outside air, not the hot Pontiacs on the show field. At times I wonder if it was the location or the age of us that discouraged attendance. At many of the events this year, the number of participants seemed to be lower than previous years. As always, we always seem to find old friends, cars, parts, and lifelong memories.



Without a doubt there was some beautiful Safari wagons on display. Two very nice 1957 Modified wagons and an original 1957 lime fire green Trans Continental. Oh yes, I also brought an older '57 Safari that I brought to one of the first conventions in the early 70's. It has been through a lot and aged with patina and some light rust. This was a real oldie, with its black roll and pleated interior, chrome reverse wheels, and a 389 tri-power mill.

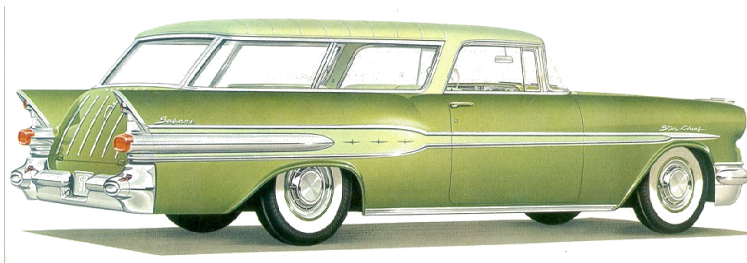
I am most excited for our annual cruise and meeting. Attendance was high, I wonder if it was due to the BBQ or just curious people wanting to hear our annual meeting. Anyways, I see it as a success. We had new members sign up, who we greatly welcome and old members renewed their membership. At this meeting, I took the opportunity to thank Robin, for her loyal duties and hard work toward our chapter and Tom, for his forever car and Safari knowledge that he always graciously shares with us.

It was a nice surprise to hear from old members, Lenny Sokol and Dennis Dana. These guys are looking for photos of a 1957 two door Safaris. I plan to send them some pictures of one of mine. I have a feeling they may be working on writing a future article to share with us.

As I was writing this letter, we were at the start of the Fall season. The leaves were starting to fall, and the green grass was getting covered with fallen leaves. I knew we would soon be turning the clocks back and our days would shorten. The flip side is it will give us more time to work in the dark on our beloved wagons! As the newsletter gets closer to being sent out, many of you are already experiencing the dreaded snow. Continue to look on the bright side, Spring is around the corner.

In closing, if possible it would be great if all of you could send a photo, a letter or a story to Rich for our upcoming newsletters. Enjoy the Holidays.

Lou Calasibetta



Behind the Wheel in the Editors' Seat

Hello Everyone,

Yes, we still are producing newsletters, but the process has been a little difficult over the last few months getting one out. Several of you have sent emails wondering if you haven't received one. Rest assured the post office is doing its job. We just haven't been giving them anything to make money off of since the Spring newsletter. We are working to get back on track to get back to a more regular schedule.

With that said, this issue is entirely dedicated to the 2017 POCI Convention and Safarians and their cars that were in Fort Worth, Texas. As the old saying goes.....A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words.....or in this case many pictures instead of words. Thanks to Robin and Lou for forwarding pictures and descriptions for them. I've tried to capture as many as possible. Enjoy.

I have been thinking about how to pass on the experiences members have working on their Pontiacs and Safaris. I'd like to get the membership to help generate some information sharing for current and future members. One way to do that is create a "job list" that someone in the membership can sign up for and share an experience that I can include in a future newsletter. To get us started I am going to list items below that I'd like several members to grab one or two each. In the future, members can email me with subjects they would like to get information on and I will list them in each newsletter. So here it goes:

Installing a New Headliner	Adjusting a Tri-Power Carb	Installing Power Brakes
Fixing Liftgate Leaks	Custom Dual Exhaust	Suspension Improvements

My first shout-out goes to Lou Calasibetta. Not because he doesn't do enough for the Chapter, he does, but because I've seen some of the great work he's done with his Safari's in the past. I hope to include some members' input, along with Lou's, on the above list in the next newsletter.

Let it snow!!

Rich

Thanks For Your Patience...

Since the membership has been patient with us, as we've had difficulties getting issues out this year, the Chapter Officers have agreed to extend the 2017 membership year through all of 2018. Therefore your Dues Are NOT Due at this time. If you've already paid for 2018 dues, they will be extended into 2019. Thank you.

Lou, Robin & Rich

2017 POCl Convention in Photos

Chapter Meeting



Above: Mark Petry standing outside the Cattlemen's Steak House, location of the Chapter Meeting; **Below:** Lou Calasibetta addresses the chapter membership.



2017 POCI Convention in Photos

The Bowers and the Hadleys relaxing and cooling off in the host hotel.



Above: Cornell and Susie Finch

Right: Award Winners Steve and Andrea Cook

2017 POCl Convention in Photos



Chapter Members gather around Lee Hadley's '57 Transcontinental.

Award Winners (left to right): Lou Calasibetta, Rita and Lee Hadley, and Jake White.



Robin Petry at Fort Worth Botanical Gardens.

2017 POCI Convention in Photos



Lee and Rita Hadley and their beautiful '57 Transcontinental Safari and it's awards. Below member Jack Johnson takes a peek under the hood.



2017 POCI Convention in Photos

Awards

BEST CHAPTER DISPLAY



Award of Merit

Custom Safari Chapter

Chapter Member Awards



1926-57 semi-modified

Lou Calasibetta
1957
Pontiac Safari



Most Outstanding



1920-2017 GMC all models

Steve Cook
1957
GMC Suburban Carry All



Most Outstanding



Best of Show

Steve Cook
1957
GMC Suburban Carry All



Post War



1955-58 Custom Safari only

H. Lee Hadley
1957
Pontiac Transcontinental Wagon



Most Outstanding



1973-87 GP, GP 2+2

John (jack) White Jr.
1986
Pontiac Grand Prix 2+2



Most Outstanding

Lou presenting the Chapter Best of Show award to the Hadleys.



2017 POCI Convention in Photos



**Lou Calasibetta's '57
Semi-Modified Custom Safari**



2017 POCI Convention in Photos



Above: Members gather around the Safaris at the lunch cruise location.

Left: Nice view of the Cruise cars: Richard Nemechek's, Lou Calasibetta's and Jim Bowers' '57's

Below: Richard Nemechek's Safari from behind.



2017 POCI Convention

Custom Safari Chapter Meeting Minutes POCI National Meeting, 7/13/2017, Fort Worth, Texas

20 Members in attendance: James & Sandy Bowers, Lou Calasibetta, Lee Hadley, Jack Johnson, Jack White, Steve and Andrea Cook, Tom and Summer Young, Robin Clark, Mark & Robin Petry, Noel Evans, Carl Loftis, Wilf Kaszanits, Dave Johnson, Cornell and Susie Fitch, Richard Nemecek,

6 Visitor: Dan Rathman, Scott Bowers, Sharon McCown, Bryce Morton, Jesse Hale, Phillip Lamb

Group had lunch and then Lou Calasibetta, CSC President, called the meeting to order. Members introduced themselves.

2016 minutes of the chapter meeting in Bettendorf, Iowa: Were printed in the newsletter after last year's meeting.

2017 Treasurer's report: 4/1/2016 Starting balance: \$1515.76 plus income: \$2305 (Dues \$2269, Tshirts \$36) minus \$1046.51 Expenses (3 newsletters and postage \$878, Website Domain fee \$70, Best Safari Plaque 2016 and 2017 \$98.51) = 7/11 2017 Ending balance \$2774.25

2017 Membership report: 7/13/17 Current number of registered families/members is 73 and 2 joined at today's meeting which puts current membership at 75. .

Old Business:

Chapter TShirt: Robin reported that she had made contact with Marissa Johnson of CREAM Design and Print. First 20 minutes of graphic design is free then \$25 for each hour after that. Screen printing is \$2.50 per shirt and \$3.50 for small to extra-large shirts and \$4.50 for XXL or larger. Number of colors will affect price and once designed will need to evaluate that. Discussion of the design was reviewed. Robin showed a mock that has all 5 Safaris on the front (55, 56, 57, 57 Transcontinental, 58 Transcontinental). After discussion, the following was approved: Keep our current ashe color, keep the back of the shirt blank for members to have their own cars put on themselves; have the 55, 56, 57 on the top area of the front; our current Custom Safari Chapter Logo in the middle and the 57 and 58 Transcontinental below it; see if the printers can do 100% cotton and 50/50 blend; members would need to preorder their shirts then additional numbers would be added to the initial order to have a stock available. Tom Young will work on getting the above design created and cleaned up as much as possible to minimize the graphic design fee. Then it will be sent to CREAM Design and Print.

Newsletter Support: Lou recognized and thanked Rich Pye for his time, energy, dedication and amazing work to the chapter newsletter especially with all the personal challenges he has had to balance and Tom Young for all he has done to help with getting the newsletters to support Rich. The chapter newsletter is our main commodity and mechanism to connect members. It is important to support him with articles and short briefs. Tom Young reminded and encouraged members to send in pictures of Safaris in their "natural habitat" whether it be at shows or trips. Members are encouraged not to feel pressured to send in lengthy articles but sometimes even just tidbits of Safari news. Cornell Fitch and Lee Hadley volunteered to work on article.

New Business:

Chapter Officers: Lou Calasibetta, Rich Pye and Robin Petry willing to continue in current roles for the next year. Group approved this and thanked them for being willing to do this.

Members at the convention to meet Saturday, July 15th at 1pm at Lou's car in the Modified class area to vote for the "Best Safari" at the convention and determine which member drove their Safari the longest distance.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Robin Petry
CSC Secretary/ Treasurer

2017 POCI Convention in Photos



Above: The Chapter members in a group shot
Right: Carl Loftis, Noel Evans and Jack White stopping for a moment for a picture at the Swap Meet
Below: Mark Petry at the Fort Worth Stock Yards



2017 POCI Convention in Photos



Left: The Youngs and the Bowers admiring a nice '57 Safari in the parking lot.

Right: Lee Hadley and Mark Petry relaxing and chatting
Below: At the Chapter Display are Robin Petry, Noel Evans, Lou Calasibetta, Jack White and Mark Petry. The Chapter won a Display Award of Merit this year.



2017 POCI Convention in Photos



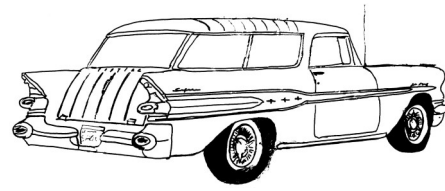
Richard Nemecek showing Lou Calasibetta, Wilf Kaszinits and others some nice chrome pieces.

Mark Petry at the Vintage Flying Museum and Stock yards



New Member Richard Nemecek and his family with his '57.

Safari Search



FOR SALE: 1957 Custom Safari 2 dr: Restored in 2000. 1968 428 motor with disc brakes, vintage AC- car came with air. 7000 miles since restoration. Very nice car. \$50,000. Call 231 690-0429 for more info.



PARTS For Sale

1955 Pontiac: Parting out a 2 door Chieftain. Email Rich Pye at rpye@rochester.rr.com.

1955-57 Pontiac: Custom Safari new gas tanks, \$399.00 plus shipping. New lower tailgate assembly, \$850.00 plus shipping. NOS 1956 Pontiac lit hood ornament, original box, \$600. Jay Hammond. 302 322-1833 jhchevyparts@aol.com.

1957 Pontiac: Front brake drums complete with backing plates, shoes, wheel cylinders & wheel bearings, \$100 ea. 2 radios & speaker housings, maroon & green, \$150 ea. Complete rear differential, 3.23 gears, \$100. 5 hub caps, good cond., \$100. Call Bill Hanners at 239 543-3510 FL

1955-56 Motor Trend Magazines: August 1955 featuring cover pic of '55 Safari wagon, \$10. December, 1954 issue featuring review of new '55 Pontiac engine \$6. May 1956 issue featuring '56 Pontiac road test, \$6. Free shipping to US address. Contact Tom Young 805 375-1320 or pontiactom@ix.netcom.com



FOR SALE: Four 15" Rally 2 rims (5x4 3/4 bolt pattern). Rims restored. Includes four mounted like new tires. Two are 225 60R15 and two are 23570R. Asking \$550 or best offer. Will consider separating them. Please contact Rick at 401 934-0663 or frdigi@cox.net.

'56 Safari Parts For Sale: Member Tom Kelly is selling the following items from a '56 Safari (contact Tom Kelly at bstkl@msn.com and put 56 parts in the subject line. '57 347 engine w/bell housing & 2bbl carb, asking \$500. left & right spindles complete, shoes, bearings, drums, and kingpins, asking \$75 ea. Dual coupling transmission, all new rebuilt, w/gears, front pump, & nose cone, \$1700. Power steering pump w/ bracket, \$75. aluminum flywheel w/steel ring gear, \$125, starter \$50.

WANTED

1950-52 Pontiac: Exterior & interior trim. Contact Paul Gore

1955 Pontiac: OEM side view mirror (#519802) ? And a OEM non-glare rear view mirror (#51170 or #988647) ? For a '55 Safari. Not sure about the correct part #'s. NOS is not necessary but would like to find something in good to very good condition with minimal pitting. gpark14@aol.com

1956 Safari: Information needed on how to replace rear leaf springs. Contact Gary Birenbaum at mrponti-ac@mindspring.com

1957 Safari Wanted: If you have any leads, please contact Dwight at dwhitmire3153@charter.net or call cell 770 851-1010.

1955-57 Pontiac station wagon: Exterior Tee handle for lift-gate on with as many attached parts as possible. Steve Cook jumbodog54@sbcglobal.net or 314 795-4700.

1957 Pontiac: AC components that mount to engine, brackets, compressor, condenser, etc. Rich Pye.

TO PLACE AN AD: Looking to sell parts or a car? Send your request to Rich Pye at rpye@rochester.rr.com. Your ad should be related to 1955 to 1958 Pontiacs and include photos when possible.

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 P.O. Box 68, Maple Plain, MN 55359 US Website: www.poci.org

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.

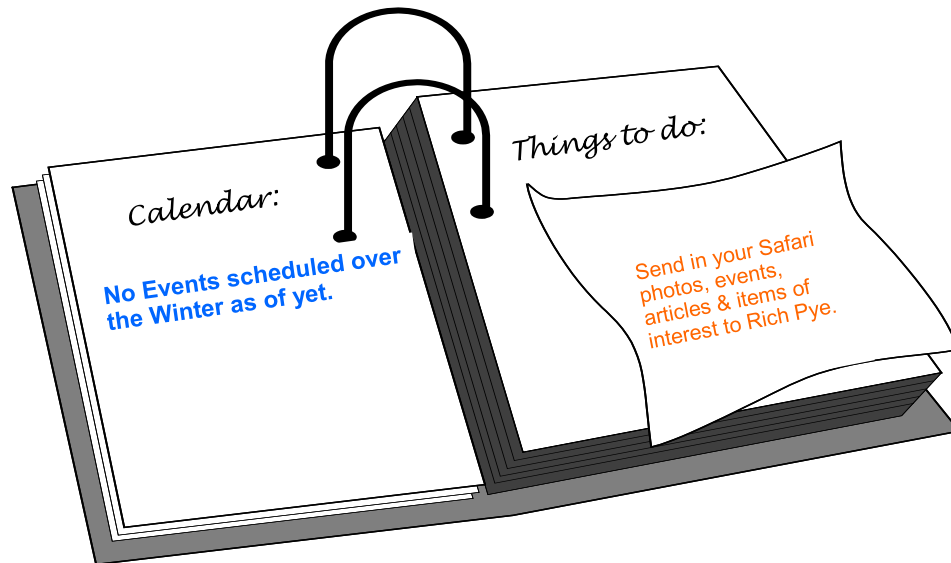
The Safari news is a quarterly publication produced by the chapter. Volume 1, Number 1 was distributed in June, 1977. Newsletter publication was reset as Volume 1, Number 1 in December, 1993. A limited number of back issues may be available. For additional information, write to the editor, Rich Pye.

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

Our Winter season issue will feature:
Surprises, technical repair & restoration articles, and more Safari
flashbacks.