

Pontiac-Oakland Club International, Inc.

Custom Safari Chapter

1955-58 Star Chief Custom Safari wagons

We have a winner!

William (Zack) Platt III received our chapter's BEST SAFARI award at the POCI National Convention Popular Vote show in July of 2022.

Zack drove his beautiful, fully loaded 1955 Safari wagon from Florida to Catoosa, OK.



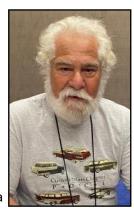
From the President's Garage

Hello Everyone,

I want to open by saying that I really want to thank all of the members that have paid their dues. Tom, Rich, and Robin would like to express their appreciation for your support too. We always try to get it right for you, our loyal members.

Here we are in a new year with the hopes of enjoying a wonderful and long Safari wagon driving season. We just need to have the weather cooperate with us!

By now some of you may have read the story on Wheeler Bradley's '57 wagons in Hemmings Classic Car magazine. It has some super photos. I had the pleasure of seeing one of the Safari wagons at the POCI National Convention in Connecticut a few years ago. Nice wagon!



This year's POCI National Convention is in the southern part of our Country. It's a totally new and exciting destination for our club. I am looking forward to a great turn out of wagons. Our wagons will look great in the famous Smokey Mountains of Tennessee. Trust me, I have been there. It will be a wonderful event with good people and excellent weather. Tough to beat that atmosphere for the POCI 2023 event.

I've had a busy winter season. I was invited to three mid-west indoor custom car shows with my well-known, 1960s custom Pontiac named, the *Golden Indian*. The reception of this old '60s custom Pontiac has been a wonderful experience, I am amazed that after all these years the *Golden Indian* still is a hot

item in the custom car circuit. The car was created by the famous Alexander Brothers back in the early 1960s. I rescued it decades ago and restored it. I am so grateful to have been involved with the total restoration of this classic custom. Here's a picture of it......

I suppose I have said enough for now. I am looking forward to the National Convention and our Chapter Annual Meeting in Tennessee. I hope to see you there.



Lou

For more information about the Golden Indian, go on-line to:

Mike Budnick's 1960 Pontiac - Kustomrama

You can also use the link:

https://kustomrama.com/wiki/Mike Budnick%27s 1960 Pontiac

Better yet, scan the OR code shown.



Under the Hood with your Editor



We are back!

Thank you for paying your annual dues for either the printed or electronic options. I hope that you will continue to enjoy our quarterly newsletter.

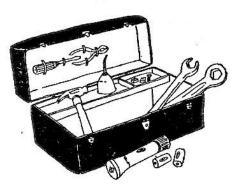
We have to thank Robin Petry for taking on more chapter responsibilities. She now prints and distributes our newsletter. Without her, you would not have the option of receiving a printed newsletter. Make sure to give her a big shout of appreciation when you have the opportunity. Thank you Robin!

For those who selected the printed newsletter, we are no longer using the thick, glossy paper for our newsletter production. The impact of COVID-19 caused our printer to close their business. Although we lost a greater printer, we should appreciate the work that Rich Pye did in establishing a business relationship with our former printer. He invested many hours in packaging and mailing our newsletters too. Thank you Rich!

We should also thank Lou Calasibetta for his leadership and moral support in keeping our chapter moving forward. His quick replies to emails, phone calls, text, and his sense of humor helped keep us on track in bringing our newsletter back this year. Thank you Lou!

I want to thank Tom Kelly, Larry Gordon, and Randy Kerdoon for their contributions to this newsletter. They done a great job making this newsletter interesting. We all enjoy hearing from Safarians. As always, your pictures, stories, and feedback are always appreciated.







Above: Tim O' Donnell's 1957 Pontiac Star Chief Custom Safari 2 dr wagon. This shinny wagon is slated for auction this spring season!!

Our Future Chapter **Events**

May 13, 2023: Fullerton Airport, Fullerton, CA

All Pontiac Show—Sponsored by the Southern California Chapter of the POCI.

This is the only purely Pontiac show in California. It's worth the trip!

June 26th through July 1st— Murfreesboro, TN

The 2023 POCI National Convention. The mother of all POCI gatherings!

June 29th: Thursday. 10 to 11 am Chapter Annual meeting.

July 1st: Saturday. 10:30 to 11:15 Chapter Popular Vote gathering.

Safari Wagons In The News

The Bradley Family Saga

The news is out about the Bradley family from Middletown, RI.

They own a lot of 1957 Pontiacs!

Just take a look at

the **MARCH** issue of Hemmings **CLASSIC CAR** magazine. You'll find an 8-page story about the Bradley's family passion for 1957 Pontiac Safari wagons.

Their story starts back in 1981 with Wheeler Bradley II, father of chapter member Wheeler Bradley II, buying a '57 Pontiac. Over the years, the elder Wheeler restored many '57 Pontiacs. Along the way, young Wheeler grew up helping his father restore Pontiacs.





The Bradley family maintains a large collection of Safari wagons—some that you may have seen in car shows in the Northeast region of our Country.

Hemmings does a great job of telling the rest of the story. So, grab a copy soon, and enjoy a great article about the Bradley family Safari restorations.

A Flash From The Past......

It was nearly 22 year ago when chapter members Jan and Glynn Rowley took first place at the *Buick-Cadillac-Olds-Pontiac* in Madera, CA during the spring of 2001.

Back in the late 1970s, the Rowleys were one of the first chapter members to fully restore a highly optioned Safari wagon.

They drove their Safari wagon across our Country to many POCI conventions.



Auctions on eBay

SOLD!

1/25 resin 1957 Pontiac Safari wagon body kit. US **\$66.00** US plus **\$12.55** expedited shipping.







"Includes all you see in pictures. Photos are of actual parts you will receive. Sold as seen in pictures, please look carefully. For experienced modelers. TRANSACTION WILL BE CANCELED AFTER 4 DAYS OF NON-PAYMENT. Could use a 57 Chevy Nomad kit as a donor."

Auction Ended: Jan 10, 2023 07:16:39 PS

High Cost of Tires Option



Notice the recent high cost of vintage tires for your Safari? \$400 or more for a single radial tire! Good news! You might have some options.

Corker Tire company recent sent an email address concerns for high costs as follows:

"Hello." "Please, give them our number (1-800-251-6336) and we can go over all options we have for their application. We offer more and more economical options each year."

"Thank you for the inquiry and have a great day!"

Cross Reference Chart This chart does not imply complete interchangeability.					
pre- 1964	'65 to '72	80 series metric	Alpha Numeric 78series	P-Metric 75 series Radial	P-Metric 70 series Radial
590-13	600-13	165-13	A78-13	P165/75R13	P175/70R13
640-13	650-13	175-13	B78-13	P175/75R13	P185/70R13
725-13	700-13	185-13	D78-13	P185/75R13	P205/70R13
590-14	645-14	155-14	B78-14	P175/75R14	P185/70R14
650-14	695-14	175-14	C78-14	P185/75R14	P195/70R14
700-14	735-14	185-14	E78-14	P195/75R14	P205/70R14
750-14	775-14	195-14	F78-14	P205/75R14	P215/70R14
800-14	825-14	205-14	G78-14	P215/75R14	P225/70R14
850-14	855-14	215-14	H78-14	P225/75R14	P235/70R14
590-15	600-15	165-15	A78-15	P165/75R15	P175/70R15
650-15	685-15	175-15	C78-15	P175/75R15	P185/70R15
640-15	735-15	185-15	E78-15	P195/75R15	P205/70R15
670-15	775-15	195-15	F78-15	P205/75R15	P215/70R15
710-15	825-15	205-15	G78-15	P215/75R15	P225/70R15
760-15	855-15	215-15	H78-15	P225/75R15	P235/70R15
800-15	885-15	230-15	J78-15	P225/75R15	P235/70R15
820-15	900-15	235-15	L78-15	P235/75R15	P255/70R15

1955 & 1956 Safari wagons from the factory used 15 inch tires. 1957 Safari wagons used 14 inch tires.

Auction Report

Mecum Auctions in Monterey, CA. August 2022.

SOLD for \$9,900!

1956 Superior Ambulance with Mayberry, NC markings.
317 CI Strato-Streak V-8 engine.
4-speed Hydra-Matic automatic transmission.
Functional Federal Beacon Ray roof signal and red flasher.
Rear attendant seat.
Two-way radio.



Social Media Report

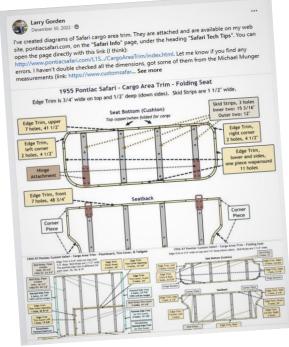
STAYING CONNECTED

If you want timely answers to your restoration or need some parts, then our chapter's Facebook page might be right for you. Members are always helping each other. They make connections which are important for sharing common interest and support for each other.









What to join us?

Sign onto the Facebook as a new member. Set your PRIVACY settings to maximum. Then search for us at:

Custom Safari Chapter, POCI 1955 thru 1958 Pontiac

Once you have found us on Facebook, answer the questions and indicate that you are a Chapter member.

Welcome aboard!

Left: The post from chapter member Larry Gorden is hard to read but it's a wonderful example of the information that you may find on our Facebook page. Larry has updated our chapter's 30 plus year old cargo deck diagram.

Look in a future newsletter for the full-size version. If you can't wait, simply go to our Facebook page to access the new diagram or go to Larry's Pontiac Safari website at:

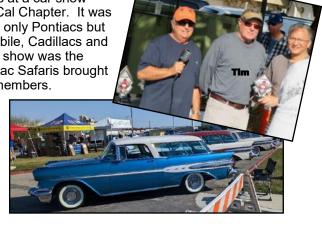
www.pontiacsafari/L1SafariFacts/CargoAreaTrim/index.htm

Custom Safari Chapter Gathering in Fullerton, CA, January 28th

It was a nice sunny day at the Fullerton Airport for a gathering of Safari fans at a car show presented by the POCI So Cal Chapter. It was an interesting show with not only Pontiacs but also classic Buicks, Oldsmobile, Cadillacs and GMC trucks. The star of the show was the collection of four 1957 Pontiac Safaris brought by Custom Safari Chapter members.

Tim O' Donnell's blue '57 Safari took home the "car you would most like to take home with you" award.

Congrats Tim!



Story by Larry Gorden

SOCAL POCI COM COMPANY MARKET MARKET

Nine Custom Safari Chapter members attended.

CK. OLDS. PONTIAI

ADILLAC, GMC TRUCK

Photos by Larry Gorden





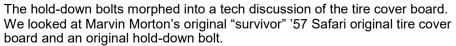


Luke Miller from Caledonia, WI, attended but did not bring his 1956 Safari (he also has a 1955 Nomad). Luke brought a surprise gift for Larry Gorden from Dennis Dana. It was a pair of very nice Safari tire cover hold-down bolts reproduced by Luke.













Marvin removed his tire cover board to show us the bottom side.

We paid special attention to the tabs on the right side of the tire cover that insert into slots in the side panel, and to the cutouts around the edges of the tire cover.







Tim O'Donnell showed us a nice drawing he made of the '57 Pontiac vacuum system.

The drawing includes vacuum to the vacuum windshield wipers, windshield washer, and power brakes. 1955-56 vacuum systems would be similar with minor differences.

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The drawing with descriptions is available as a document file at:

www.pontiacsafari.com/57/VacuumDiagram.pdf.

Overall, it was an interesting and informative day for Custom Safari Chapter members.

1957 Pontiac 347 cu in vacuum system With Carter AFB 4 Barrel Carburetor none Co-ordinatted washer system

1957 Pontiac Vacuum Drawing by Tim ODonnell

What Happens When Someone Makes An Offer You Can't Refuse?

The Story of Tom & Linda Kelly's 1956 Custom Safari Wagon.



Tom Kelly knows something about delayed gratification.

The President of the Puget Sound chapter of POCI (and Custom Safari Club member) retired around 2001, and with all that free time on his hands he decided to rebuild a 1962 Pontiac Catalina convertible.

It wasn't finished until 2005. The former electrician did most of the work himself (including the wiring) and hadn't thought at all about his next project when he took the '62 to the 2003 Goodguys show in Puyallup, Washington. There he was simply minding his own business, when a show goer stopped to look at his display of car pics on a poster easel.

The man told Tom he was from Idaho, engaged in some small talk and left. Soon the man was back with his wife, who urged him to "ask him" (Tom)!

"Ask him what?" Tom asked.

Kelly then found out the man owned 12 classics but because of an impending move to a smaller place, he was selling 4 of them.

Noting all the Pontiac pictures on the easel, he was asked if Tom knew anyone that wanted to buy a 1956 Pontiac Custom Safari wagon.

Tom didn't.

He was in the middle of his '62 rebuild. He wasn't thinking that far ahead to consider a 2nd project. The man was hoping to get \$14,500 for his '56. So Tom said he'd pass the word around the local Pontiac community.

Six months later, no one expressed interest in the Safari, so the seller dropped the price to \$8,000 throwing in a 20 foot trailer and four pallets of parts (including one pallet of NOS stainless all covered in bubble wrap!)

Now Tom was interested!

Story by Randy Kerdoon.





Tom could not refuse a good deal!

You take the offer!

Soon, a deal was struck and the Safari was put into Tom's garage, where it sat....for five years. The car was shipped to "Custom's Northwest" in Olympia, WA. where Chip Grove and his crew tore apart the formerly Nimbus Gray and Aviator Blue wagon, and went all out on a ambitious customization.

The tail lights are recessed, the front lights were "Frenched", it now rides on a Mustang II front clip

Tom & Linda's '56 Safari looks great at any angle.

with GM (Corvette) spindles, rack and pinon steering, with a 389 4-barrel power plant under the hood attached to a 700 R4 transmission with 2 1/2" exhausts connected to two chamber Flowmasters. A two toned paint job features "Snow White" pearl over Dark Blue" pearl.

The car is a magnificent oddity. Only 4,042 were made in 1956 and you can imagine how few are still on the road today. Tom customized the dash, added "Speed Hut" gauges, a "Rain Gear" wiper system, tilt column, power windows and Vintage Air.

Getting Tom's '56 back on the road, took a lot of time and wasn't cheap. He figured he had all the time in the world now that he was retired, and as for the cost, it was doable over the long term. Kelly figures he spent close to \$150,000 on it, but that's okay because unlike the late crooner Frank Sinatra he "did it my way. The way I wanted to do it.".

A rare double Safari spotting in Tacoma, WA.

Now Kelly is basking in the glory of owning such an unusual car. People want to know what it is, or can't quite understand, "No it's not a Nomad."

Then you do what Tom and I did at a car show in late 2022 at Griot's Car facility in Tacoma, WA. Having relocated to the Tacoma area in September of 2022, I brought my 1957 Pontiac Custom Safari wagon to it's first local show, parking it NEXT to Tom's '56. The wide eyed expressions were like people seeing TWO Abominable Snowmen....side by side...in person!

The Kelly's took Best of Show at "Hot Rods for Hearts" show at Griot's Garage in Tacoma, Washington last August. The award? A Captain America Shield!



What is Tom's next project? Kelly has no clue. He's still too busy tweaking the Safari. Right now he's in the middle of redoing the console by the front bench seats.

Tom's Safari is popular! It has won TWO Best in Show awards, Two "People's Choice" awards and even a "Best 50's" award. One thing is for sure, Tom is going to need a bigger display case.

CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources. Owners may not be Chapter members. Please take the time to thoroughly check the seller and wagon before making an offer.

Chapter Member Brian Bettinger's 1956 Safari Is Still Available.

\$35,000 OBO

Brian's family sold this car to a new owner who is offering this Safari to anyone looking for a good driver that is ready for long road trips.

See the *Editor's Notes* at the bottom of this page for new owner details.













1956 Pontiac Safari Wagon. \$35,000.00 OBO. The exterior shows like it is all original patina. The interior does need some work. It has a 316.6 V8 engine with an automatic transmission, Power steering, Power Brakes, AM radio with a FM converter, and it is an A/C car. But the A/C is not complete. There has been a lot of work done in the past. The engine and transmission have been rebuilt about 5 years ago, the rear pinion seal has been replaced, all new updated wiring from the dash forward, brakes have been all redone in the last 5 years, a new heater cores were installed along with new carpet and the lights have been all upgraded to LEDs. The floor was completely resealed while the carpet was out. The vehicle has all new hoses, and the radiator has been recently re-cored. The starter was replaced, and the generator has been rebuilt. When the engine was rebuilt the exhaust seats were changed to harden seats and the engine is 30 over with a 20/20 crankshaft, new valves, and an updated camshaft. The tires have 8/32-inch tread. The speedometer was rebuilt, the ignition system has been upgraded to electronic (Petronix), the wipers were upgraded to electric, the carburetor has been recently rebuilt, and the gas tank has been flushed, an electrical fuel pump has been installed, new shocks all the way around, an aftermarket transmission cooler, new exhaust with Smithy's mufflers, and aftermarket cruise control. It comes with a lot of shop manuals and the original purchase contract. This vehicle is set up to drive. The rear hatch hinges could use some work and the hatch is very difficult to close. The steering box leaks more when on jack stands. This car was purchased by Brian Bettinger in 1983 out of Oklahoma. It's a great driver that made the trip from Central Wisconsin to Minneapolis the past several years for *Back to the Fifties* auto show. Contact Bob King Bob 309 738-3645 East Moline, Illinois

Editor's Note: Bob said that he purchased this Safari last year and that he has driven this car on long trips. He added that he had planned to modify this Safari but after experiencing the dependability and old school ride, he found that this Safari is too nice to update. Bob is looking to sell this Safari so that he can find another one that he can build into a modern resto rod.

CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources. Owners may not be Chapter members. Please take the time to thoroughly check the seller and wagon before making an offer.



1957 Pontiac Star Chief Custom 2 dr Safari wagon.Fountane Blue & Kenya Ivory. Body No. 1078. Trim –244.
Paint—OPP. ACC = BKII ACC.-BK11

I bought this car out of No. Cal in 2015. It has a mid 80s Camaro subframe welded in, a professional install. It has the original '57 rear axle and the body is original & good condition. Glass is good except on curved rear glass is cracked. Still in place and intact Under hood is set up for original 347, as new front mount is designed into the Camaro crossmember. A 347 could go with the car. Has a 80's steering column, power booster and master cylinder all plumbed in. Has original hydro in chassis. Radiator is a cross flow from the Camaro donor car, and fits in the new core support. Dash has been changed out to a wood insert with SW gauges.





I have a 1957 Pontiac 4 dr donor car that has the following parts if a restoration is wanted: Complete original frame, original front clip, original untrimmed fender wells, original heater assembly, original dash cluster and stainless trim. A 347 in car with aftermarket AC compressor. Original front bumper that will need to have new brackets made to fit the Camaro subframe or bolt to donor frame if restored. Has 4 cool old mags on it that need sand blasted and power coated or rechromed. All this for \$20K. All serious offered will be considered. Car is in Tucson. Donor car is in Phx. Could transport if needed. Possibly for \$1 per mile.



Call Jan at 724 295-3785 EST



Contact Jack K. Johnson @ (602) 576-6512 or or skulptrl@gmail.com

You too could have a cool Safari street rod like I have. Too many projects I will probably never get done. Please buy it and help me make garage space for my new 2009 G8 GXP;-) (CSC member)









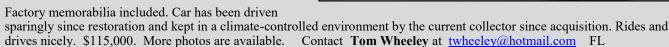
CARS FOR SALE

Safari wagons listed come from various media resources. Owners may not be Chapter members. Please take the time to thoroughly check the seller and wagon before making an offer.

1957 Pontiac Star Chief Custom Safari 2 door wagon.

#470 of 1,292 made. Outstanding running condition with just over 300 miles since older restoration. This Safari is generously equipped with numerous factory options including air conditioning, Tri-Power carburetion, power steering, power brakes, power windows, six-way adjustable front seat, radio, lighted fender ornaments, spinner wheel covers, and a leather interior. It is an AACA Senior Grand National Trophy winner. I also showed it at 2019 Hilton Head Concours where it won a Corporate Award.

The car belonged to the well known "Dr. Eddie Daurer" collection in south FL. He is a surgeon, college professor and major collector of high quality automobiles.











1957 Pontiac Safari. 10K OBO. Complete Project with power brakes and power steering. This is a mostly complete car and is ready for restoration. This car was an unmolested original car before it was disassembled for restoration and then left in storage. It is currently a complete shell with the original engine that apparently has never been apart. The engine still has the original paint and all of the fuel lines and some of the original clamps are on the heater hoses. The transmission is out of the car but is included. All of the mechanical parts, trim, moldings, seats etc., are included and are in the condition they would be had they not been removed. No windshield but it may be possible to include the quarter glass. The lift gate with glass is there and will re-plate nicely The gutters and roof corners are solid. The rust normal to Safari's is present in some areas of the floor pan but it is mostly very good with some rust in the front pans. The bottom of the driver door has rust in the center and rear corner. One quarter has rust in the front lower corner and the other has rust just ahead of the wheel well but both are not major. The driver lower quarter panel has a crease in the front area. The driver quarter was tapped in the tail light area and will need to be pulled slightly. The tail gate has some rust at the bottom edge. The quarter glass channel is badly rusted on the driver side but very good on the passenger side. The spare tire well has some rust through on the lower front but can be repaired without replacing the well. The roof once had a luggage rack installed and has 8 small screw holes. Original Silver and Gray. There does not appear to be any previous body work. The car has a clean California title,Non Op status. Many more pictures are available on request. Contact Rich at (714) 245-9800 PST or rich@pontiacparts.net

BEST RETAILER BUYS

1955-57 Pontiac front brake shoes: Soft, heat resistant. Will conform to your drum. Source: The AUTOZONE store. Duralast Part # 192. Last retail list \$28.99 for front set. www.autozone.com

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

PARTS FOR SALE



\$100.00 plus \$5.50 shipping.



NOS tail-gate letters are essentially non-existent. But this reproset has been a life-saver for anybody who is building a 1955-57 Custom Safari wagon. Buy your set now before they are no longer available.

1949 1957 Pontiac Front Stabilizer Bar Bushing Pair, C530268RS

\$58.99 plus \$6.85 shipping.



Contact California Pontiac Restoration (CPR).
714 245-9800 PST CA
www. pontiacparts.net



1957 Pontiac Fender Skirts. NORS in the original box. Instructions included. With repro mounting hardware. \$350.00 plus shipping. Ed Vassar, Dunnigan, CA 707 246-4426

WANTED

1955 Safari: Looking for the 2 interior L & R upper quarter window trim pieces (long chrome pieces), both L & R door belt trim pieces (on top on the door) and the LH rear wheel trim. Contact Rick Diehm. email: rdiehm@twc.com

1957 Pontiac 2 dr Safari wagon: Looking for the painted cargo deck metal trim moldings in restorable condition. I need all of them. Also looking for the spare tire cover "cups" and finger pull. Call Allen at 512 905-3038, or email at aj68torino@gmail.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 Pontiac: Light green plastic ivory steering wheel in useable condition for a Limefire & Seacrest Green Safari.

Jay Ward. jward@pixar.com

1957 Pontiac: Looking for a pair of nice looking front fender "rockets". They don't have to fly into orbit, just sit on my old '57 Safari wagon and look good. If you have a pair, call **John** in OH. **740 296-9638**. No emails, and my phone hardly ever works so keep trying. Thank you.

1957 Pontiac: Wanted for '57 custom 2 door Safari, rear rubber floor covering in any color, also mint seat stars. Call George Weaver at 717 354 5280, or email at fun57@comcast.net



1956 1957 1958 1959 PONTIAC OPTIONAL & A/C CARS REBUILT GENERATOR Refurbished. Recently **SOLD** for \$175.+\$22.80 shipping.

But wait! They're not all gone!! Rich Gabrielson is offering more rebuilt starters and generators currently not on eBay. Contact him direct with your needs. If he does not have replacement in stock, he can likely rebuild your starter and/or generator. Call Rich @ 510-919-5756 or mail him at pammiesuesguy@yahoo.com

POCI Chapter #10

www.customsafari.org

The Custom Safari Chapter is an official international specialty chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club, International, Incorporated. We are dedicated to the limited production 1955 through 1958 Pontiac Custom Safari wagons. 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 \$25.00 for printed newsletter or \$8.00 for electronic newsletter membership. Check with our Secretary/Treasurer for printed newsletter international rates. 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 your check to our Secretary/Treasurer's address highlight below or use Pay Pal on-line payments. Send funds to: petrymail@yahoo.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 pontiactom1957@gmail.com

The Chapter website can be found at: www.customsafari.org Find us on Facebook: Custom Safari Chapter

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



In the next issue of the SAFARI NEWS

Our Spring newsletter will feature news about our National Convention activities, a report about last year's National Convention, fresh classified ads, and a feature story about when to dip or not.