

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PCPV CHAPTER OF POCI SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016



1951 PONTIAC HEARSE





PCPV News Sept./Oct. 2016 Volume 19 ~ Number 5

The Newsletter of the Pontiac Commercial and Professional Vehicle Chapter of POCI

The **PCPV News** is published six times a year by the Pontiac Commercial and Professional Vehicle Chapter of the Pontiac-Oakland Club International (POCI), a nonprofit organization.

The PCPV Chapter (chapter #79, founded in 1998), is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, education and enjoyment of commercial and professional Pontiac, Oakland and GMC vehicles, past and present. These include: limousines, taxi cabs, hearses, police and fire cars, ambulances, sedan deliveries, station wagons, trucks, vans and SUVs. Pontiac and GMC produced military items and other special interest items are also included.

Dues are \$20 per year (U.S. funds, \$25 outside of U.S.); \$12 for electronic membership. We recommend membership in the Pontiac-Oakland Club International also - see **www.poci.org**.

Send change of address notices and article submissions to the *PCPV News* editor.

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Deadlines for *PCPV News* articles/want ad submissions:

January/February issue: January 1st March/April issue: March 1st May/June issue: May 1st July/August issue: July 1st September/October issue: Sept. 1st November/December issue: Nov. 1st



President's Message

Hello This is my first column as President of anything. So here goes.

For those who don't know me, I have been into cars from my first memories. I got into Pontiacs in 1948, literally. My parents had a '46 2-door that we drove from Maryland to Oklahoma that year. The seeds were planted then, but took a long time to bloom.



I got my first Pontiac in 1980, the same year I bit the bullet and opened my own shop doing custom bodywork, restorations and – to pay the bills – collision work. I semi-retired a few years ago after going through many Pontiacs, several of which have been in this newsletter.

I now have four Pontiacs: three '61 Catalinas and a '62 Grand Prix. One of the '61s is a station wagon, which I hope to start on next year. (I need a '61 or '62 lower tailgate.) I will probably make it into an El Camino-type vehicle, as I enjoy building cars that the car companies didn't.

Anyway, I'm sure I'll enjoy my Presidency and someday may make it to another convention and meet some club members.

Gary Minor, PCPV President





Cover photo: Pontiac hearse parked in front of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts in 1951. Courtesy of David Niebur.



Hi, everyone. For those of you who don't know me, I'll describe myself briefly. Long time POCI member (since 1995). Early member of the PCPV chapter (member #47). Very active in the South Jersey Pontiac chapter. Some of you in the southern New Jersey area may have attended our shows. My interest in Pontiacs has been focused on the big cars, such as Catalinas and Bonnevilles. Collecting Pontiac professional cars seemed like a natural extension.

I own five Pontiac professional cars, two hearses, two ambulances, and a limo. In addition, I have nine other big old Pontiacs, and three "new" Pontiacs. The car that I have shown the most this summer has been my 1986 Parisienne hearse. Basically a modified Parisienne station wagon, the conversion by Eagle coach stretched the tail by ten inches and added a raised roof. The original owner was Brooks Funeral Home in Turbotville, PA.



I look forward to continuing our PCPV chapter. I'm sure that involvement in a virtual chapter like this will be different than a "brick and mortar" chapter like my South Jersey Pontiacs. There won't be any physical activities such as show registrations,

parking, and judging. And while my main interests lie with the Pontiac hearses, limos, and ambulances, I enjoy learning about all of those other "oddball" Pontiacs. For example, at a local show this season, I saw a 1951 Pontiac sedan delivery and chatted with the owner. It was a work in progress, so I hope I can continue to see it advance to full restoration in the future. I've attended three POCI conventions and one GTOAA convention. Our 2017 POCI convention in Fort Worth, TX, is still a long way off, but I'm shooting to make that one. I urge all PCPV members to submit descriptions of yourselves and your vehicles.

> *Wayne Guy,* PCPV Chapter VP



Lookíng Out The Back Door

I'd like to give thanks in two ways:

1) thanks to outgoing PCPV President **Michael Leonard** for his seervice to the chapter. I mailed Mike a plaque of recognition on behalf of the chapter.

2) thanks to our incoming officers **Gary Minor** (stepping up from VP to be Presiddent) and **Wayne Guy** (stepping in to be the new Chapter VP)

Lots of Pontiac pro-car action this summer! In the next issue, I plan to run a story and photos from the 2016 PCS Annual Meet (courtesy of **Gregg Merksamer**).

Thanks to **John Sawruk Jr.** and **Larry Holt** for submissions this month.

Keep the photos and email updates coming in. Until the next issue... let's all do our best to *keep the PCPV Legacy Alive!*





2017 POCI Convention Fort Worth, Texas July 11-15

Online registration (\$65) is available on the POCI website (www.poci.org).

The host hotel is the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott Hotel & Golf Club (866) 348-3984. Mention the "Pontiac National Convention" for the best room rate.

Call the POCI Club Office at (877) 368-3454 if you have any questions.



Welcome New Member!



John Dornbush Fulton, IL Owns: 1938 Pontiac Sedan Delivery

Pontiac-Oakland Club International - POCI Published by Paul Bergstrom [?] - Just now · @



Do you like the unusual Pontiacs?

VISIT THE CPV WEB SITE

Sedan deliveries, hearse, ambulances, station wagons, police and fire cars? If so, then you need to check out POCI's Pontiac Commercial and Professional Vehicle chapter!



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Thanks to John Sawruk, Jr for sharing these Canadian Pontiac station wagon ads from his Dad's collection of Pontiac artifacts!



1961 PONTIAC STRATO-CHIEF SAFARIS



STRATO-CHIEF 6-passenger Safari in roman red

Pontiac's lowest priced wagon, the Strato-Chief 4-door 6-passenger Safari leaves nothing to be desired when it comes to space and convenience. Plenty of room for all your driving requirements on either business or pleasure trips.

STRATO-CHIEF 9-passenger Safari in tuxedo black

SHARKNOSE-CAMINO



David Hitchinson 🕨 Pre 62 Radical Kustoms April 20 · Auburn, CA · 🛞

Yea so Lended up buying this 1960 Pontiac Catalina turned elcamino off Oz Welch It's got a 389 w Tri power n stick I'm looking for info on the history of this car. Car was originally white the underside was white as well believe it was a finished custom as the frame n suspension inner fenders and dash were all gold mini Flake. Car was purchased by a guy from Montane in 03 in a junkyard in lowe OZ bought it around 04 any help on info is appreciated



THE DUKE'S PONCHO WAGON



This 1975 Pontiac Grand Safari Station Wagon was owned and driven by legendary actor John Wayne. This was The Dukes last daily/family driver. The vehicle was modified by George Barris in '75 when Wayne asked Barris to raise the roof so the actor could enter and exit the vehicle without having to remove his cowboy hat. This vehicle was restored by George Barris Kustom Industries in 2014. It features a 455ci 8-cylinder engine with an automatic transmission. The interior was all-original except for the carpet which was replaced. This car originally came out of the private collection of John Waynes late son and daughter-in-law Michael and Gretchen Wayne and Batjac Productions an independent film production company founded by John Wayne in the early 1950s. A Letter of Authenticity from George Barris and Barris Kustom Industries accompanies the vehicle.

Vehicle descriptions are provided exclusively by the consignor. Barrett-Jackson does not make representations or warranties about vehicles offered for sale at auction.





PCPV MARKETPLACE



1949 Pontiac Ambulance

"1949 Pontiac ambulance 6cyl stick car is complete less radiator motor is stuck all lights are there and comes with has good title would make a cool rod very few of these." Ft. Dodge, Iowa; asking \$3,000

Craigslist ad = http://minneapolis.craigslist.org/hnp/cto/5689671720.html



Trans Am Police Car, available at: http://www.farmtoysandmore.com

For sale on eBay: Pontiac Fire Truck

Seller states:

I believe this one was made by AC Williams. Appears to be a 1930s Pontiac. Awesome nickel grill and original patina. Great old toy.





Hi Paul.

I recently mailed you photos of my '52 Pontiac sedan delivery and joined up with the PCPV Chapter. Here are some photos of my next project. A few mionths ago, I bought a '53 Pontiac Station Wagon. As you can see it needs work. My son and I will work on making it into a "ratrod". I already stripped the paint off. I have a 455 Pontiac or 400 Pontiac engine to drop in. The car is all there, just needs TLC, it will be a fun winter project!

Larry Holt



PCPV POTPOURRI

A Pontiac pickup, right hand drive, built in Australia. A very rare truck.



From the POCI Nebraskaland Chapter Aug/Sept 2016 newsletter.

Pontiac Pro-Car and Limousines For Sale

Former PCPV member's family is selling off their Pontiac collection. Up for sale are:

- \$500 for a 1986 Pontiac Parisienne Hearse
- \$5,000 for a 1986 Pontiac 6000 STE limousine
- \$7,500 for a 1986 Pontiac Parisienne limousine

For more information, contact **Bradley Vass**, email: bvass@sbcglobal.net (417)848-9601 (MO)

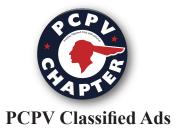








Page 11



Parts For Sale

For sale: GM Shop Manuals, book vendor sale. Almost 2,000 books 1960-2000. In good condition. Ideal money maker for young vendor. Priced to sell all at \$1 each, \$2,000 buys all. Also, Motors, Chilton, Mitchell books in this pile. **Rodney Brockman**, 24862 Ridge, Elwood, IL 60421 (815) 478-3633

1955 Pontiac parts: complete under seat heater system, radiator; **1955 pontiac Star Chief 4-door sedan** (motor. trans out for rebuild) no rust, new interior \$3,800. **Mike Koch** (937) 572-8035 (OH)

Newsletter Contributions Wanted

Send photos, stories, want ads, restoration tips, or just drop a note to say hello. Tell us what's happening on the Pontiac/Oakland/GMC scene in your area!

E-mail submissions to pontiacpaulb@gmail.com



Parts Wanted

1949 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: I am looking for a set of 1951 Pontiac full size hubcaps with the chief in red. I have available a set of original '49 SD bucket seats, complete and nice. I also could use an exterior winshield sunvisor for my '49 SD. **Mike Theim**, yellowsidecar@hotmail.com or call 920-261-6724 (WI)



1953 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: battery tray and the stainless-steel trim 81" long for the driver's side only. Contact **Roger Bentley** (MD) email: airlinebuff2000@yahoo.com



1949 Pontiac parts wanted: Quarter Panel Stainless- Spears for 1949 Pontiac 2dr or sedan delivery, **Russell Cogar** 304-847-7542

1963 Pontiac: looking for a Perfect Circle cruise control setuo (or whatever you've got). **Mike Leonard** (308) 391-3833







Parts/Pontiacs Wanted

Canadian Pontiacs and GMCs: wanted light-duty GMC sales brochures 1937-1958 showing panel trucks and sedan deliveries; Canadian Pontiac brochures 1937 - 1962; 2003 Vibe manuals and dealer literature. Contact **John Preikschat**, Phone (306) 771-2929 email: bigjohn@sasktel.net (M)

1956 Pontiac 3-seat wagon: need 3rd seat for pattern. Have 4 wagons with no rear seats! Chevy will also work. **Perry Eaton** (530) 534-5510 (CA)

Literature/info wanted - for '66 Bonneville Superior Embassy limousine. Contact Joe Sharpnack (402) 789-3015 (NE)

1962 Superior Criterion Ambulance: 15" Deluxe wheel covers, '62-era Superior Coachworks assembly manuals or photos to help with restoration. **Matt Planning** (262) 646-3363 matthew@brewcityengineering.com (WI)

1938 Pontiac: "8" lower Grille Bar and crank cover in restored or restorable condition. **John Dornbush** 563-593-1032 (IL)

Wanted: any literature for the 1955-56-57 Pontiac Sedan Delivery. Rodney Brockman, 24862 Ridge Road, Elwood, IL 60421



Restoration Tips

1926-1958 Pontiac parts: Free parts catalog available from California Pontiac Restoration. Contact **Richard Plastino**, (714) 245-9800 email rich@ pontiacparts.net, mailing address: 820 Poinsettia Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701



| POCI New Membership Form: | |
|--|---|
| Year Style Name/Number No. Cylinders | Pontiac Oakland GMC Annual Membership |
| Year Style Name/Number No. Cylinders | U.S. (Includes 2 Associates) \$33.00 Canada (Includes 2 Associates) \$40.00 Foreign (Includes 2 Associates) \$49.00 Associate Membership (All) \$2.00/each |
| Year Style Name/Number No. Cylinders | Bill My: Disa Discover |
| Owner: | Card Number: |
| Associate Member(s) | |
| Address:State:ZIP+4 | Expiration: Security Code: |
| Country Phone:() | Signature: |
| Email: Referred By (Name & Member#): | |
| | |
| POCI Membership # (if applicable) Annual Dues = \$20.00 Outside of U.S. = \$25.00 Electronic Membership = \$12.00 (newsletter received via email) NAME: | |
| ADDRESS: | |
| CITY: | STATE/PROV |
| ZIP/POSTAL CODE: | PHONE: |
| email: | |
| Vehicles owned: | |
| Send check or money order made out to: | |

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