

The Straight Arrow



The Monthly Newsletter of the Pontiacs of Central California
January 2004

www.pontiacsofcentralcalifornia.org
Webmaster - Brian Massey

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President's Message

Happy New Year.

It is hard to believe that another year has passed. We had a great year in 2003 thanks to so many people. A sincere 'thanks' to Ron Berglund for his leadership and efforts to advance our club regionally (count up the number of times his name appears in the January Smoke Signals). And, special thanks to Brian Massey and Greg Griggs for their good work in securing our site at the Pines Resort for the 2005 regional. And, thanks to everyone else in our club because I think each and every person contributed to a great year.

We have accomplished a lot, and we have much more to do. I would like to propose the following goals for 2004 for your consideration:

1) Grow to over forty family members. This month, we need everyone who was a member in 2003 to reenlist for 2004. I would ask that you pay your dues as early as possible and keep Bill Truckell busy at our January meeting. Then, we need to work at bringing new members into the club. When new faces appear at our meetings, let's try hard not scare anyone away, at least for the first couple of months! We can scare them later. I hope we can find a place in our club for owners of both vintage and more modern Pontiacs and GMC's. I would like to see more Fiero owners, 3rd and 4th generation Firebird owners, and even Sunfire, Grand Am, Grand Prix and 2004 GTO owners at our meetings, events and shows. Of course, we desperately need more '67 Goat owners.

2) Travel to more shows and continue to expand our regional place in the hobby. The jackets, hats, nametags and dash plaques sure help. Let's be an enthusiastic entrant in shows around the region, enjoy the day, and keep a good thought about our future hosts.

3) Read about our club and members in Smoke Signals, Pontiac Enthusiast and High

Performance Pontiac magazines. We have great cars and we need to share them with others. We also have great stories about our lives with Pontiacs and we should share those too. And, speaking of those past life experiences, I would propose that we share our 'earlier-in-life' Pontiac stories with the newsletter editors (Joel and Sam). I know we burned Ron out on those columns, to the point that we all learned more about Model A's than we thought possible. I have a few family stories about Pontiacs from my past (and my parents) that I will pass along in the next twelve months. So, sharpen up those computer keys and send along a tale from the past; a family trip to another state, your dad buying a new Catalina, the first ride in a tri-power chief, or the time the car died by the side of the road. We will enjoy them all.

4) Get more members actively involved in contributing to the newsletter, leading events, signing up for leadership positions for our April and 2005 regional shows, and recruiting new members. There is plenty of opportunity for everyone to be an active member.

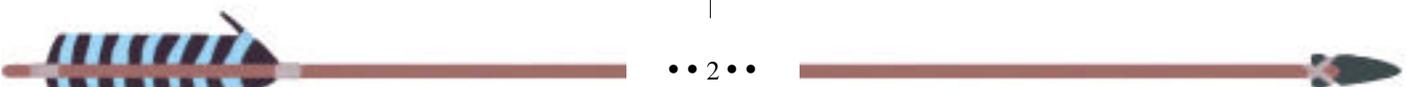
5) Continue to enjoy the family style participation we have enjoyed these past ten years. Having family members and friends join us at every opportunity makes each event and meeting better and probably keeps us in line at the same time.

6) Finally, let's have even more fun than ever. This includes taking advantage of opportunities to support other clubs and non-profit organizations in our community.

I thank you for your confidence in me to be club president for 2004 (regardless of the fact no one else wanted to do it :) I look forward to our best year ever and one that finds us all safe and happy next December.

Andy Hoff

President



2004 Pontiac Calendar

The San Diego Chapter of POCI now has available for sale a high quality 2004 calendar featuring beautiful, classic Pontiacs of the San Diego Chapter of POCI. The photographs were professionally taken in and around San Diego.

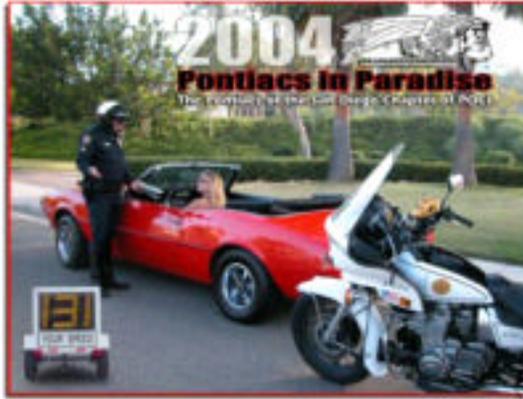
This is the second year we have offered a calendar for sale, and the response has been great. Sales of the calendar help fund our charitable efforts throughout the year

Cars featured in this years calendar include:

- '59 Catalina
- '70 GTO Judge
- Jim Wangers '66 GTO Tiger
- '68 Firebird HO Convertible
- '00 SLP Firehawk
- '64 GTO
- '66 GTO
- '70 Trans Am
- '70 GTO
- '68 Bonneville
- '67 Grand Prix
- '62 "Pure Indian" Tempest Drag Car

The calendar is printed on high quality stock paper and is in full color.

Size open (hanging) is 17.5" long x 11" wide. We have been running ads on "Ebay" where some of the pictures used may be viewed. Search for "Pontiac Calendar". The seller ID is "RNR". Check the positive feedback and comments from others who have purchased the calendar on ebay. (Go to one of the ongoing auctions and click on the number (currently



429) next to my user ID "RNR" to read feedback. Click on the item numbers for sold items to see more pictures.)

We also feature the calendar on our website at www.sdpoci.com. Orders may be placed through the website, through Ebay, or directly through myself.

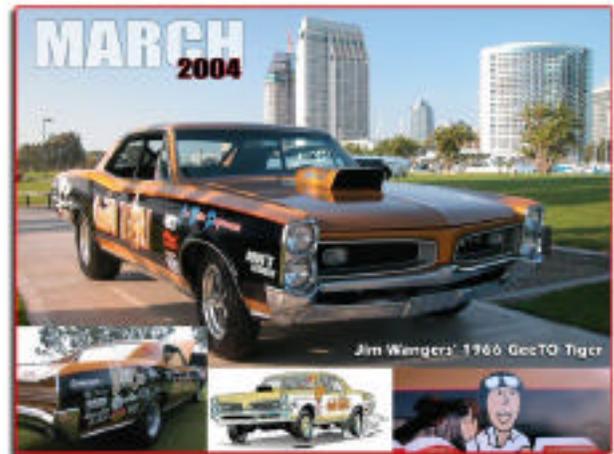
Please contact me for any questions or for ordering information, payment addresses, etc. The price is \$15 per calendar, plus \$5 shipping via U.S. Priority Mail (2 - 3 days in the U.S.) Payments accepted are PayPal via Ebay and our website, or money orders/checks mailed to either the address on the website or my home address. We offer a discounted price of 4 calendars shipped to the same address for \$50 (just \$12.50 each!). Shipping is \$8 for the 4 calendars

Jim Thomson

San Diego Pontiac Club Activities Chair

james.thomson@gat.com

www.sdpoci.com



The Correct Use of Tools

Most people who work on cars know that all tools have at least two uses; the one it was designed for and the one it is used for. The following list demonstrates some of the latter uses of tools.

Hammer - Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer now a days is used as a kind of divining rod to locate expensive parts not far from the object we are trying to hit.

Electric Hand Drill - Normally used for spinning steel pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age; also works great for drilling mounting holes in fender wells just opposite the brake line that goes to the real wheels.

Hacksaw - One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, such that the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

Vice Grips - Used to round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

Pliers - Also used to round off bolt heads when you cannot find your vice grips.

Oxyacetylene Torch - Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your garage on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside a brake drum you're trying to get the bearing race out of.

Whitworth Sockets - Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that

9/16 or 1/2 inch socket you've been searching for the last 15 minutes.

Drill Press - A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of our hands so that it smacks you in the chest or hits and flings you beer across the room, splattering it all over that freshly painted part that was drying.

Wire Wheel - Cleans rust off of old bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench at the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar callouses in less time than it takes you to say &@#\$\$&%#@.

Mechanic's Knife - Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on boxes containing expensive replacement seat covers and leather motorcycle jackets.



Snap On Gasket Scraper - Theoretically useful as a sandwich tool for spreading mayonnaise; used mainly for getting mud or dog-doo off of your boots or shoes.

Timing Light - A stroboscopic instrument for illuminating grease buildup.

Hydraulic Floor Jack - Used for lowering a car to the ground after you have installed your new headers, trapping the jack handle under the radiator support.

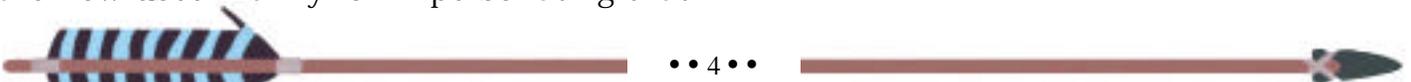
8' long Douglas Fir 4x4 - Used for levering a car upward off a hydraulic jack (see above).

Tweezers - Used for removing Douglas Fir splinters from your hands and fingers (see above).



Phone - Tool for calling your neighbor to see if he has another hydraulic floor jack you can borrow (see two above).

Aviation Metal Snips - See hacksaw



E-Z Out Bold and Stud Extractor - A tool that snaps off in sheared off bolts and is twenty times harder than the broken bolt and five time harder than any known drill bit.

Two Ton Hydraulic Engine Hoist - A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of ground straps and brake lines you may have forgotten to disconnect.

Craftsman 1/2 x 16" screwdriver - A large motor mount prying tool that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end without the handle.

Battery Electrolyte Tester - A handy tool for transferring sulfuric acid from a car battery to the inside of fender wells and/or the outside of newly painted fenders and/or the inside of your toolbox after determining that you battery is dead as a doornail, just as you thought. Can also cause holes to magically appear in your work cloths immediately following their next washing (which in some cases may be several years in the future).

Trouble Light - The mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a drop light (for obvious reasons), it is a good source of vitamin D (the sunshine vitamin), which is not otherwise found under cars at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40 watt light bulbs (see obvious reasons above) at about the same rate that 105 mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

Phillips Screwdriver - Normally used to stab the lids of old style paper and tin oil cans and splash oil on your shirt; can also be used as the name implies, to round off Phillips screw heads.

Air Compressor - A machine that takes energy produced in a coal burning plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 60 years ago by someone in Detroit and rounds them off.

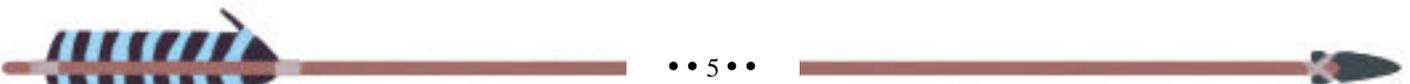
Pry Bar - A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding the clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

Hose Cutter - A tool used to cut hoses 1/2 inch too short regardless of how many times you measure.

Post Mall - Large sledge used to deform sheet metal enough to fit parts in spots previously too small to hold them. Also used as a stress reliever much like those little bean bags the office crowd have.

Air Impact Wrench - An air tool used to:

- a) tighten wheel lug nuts to the point where they cannot be removed beside the road in the rain with the Mickey Mouse lug wrench that came with the vehicle, or;
- b) a tool for breaking chrome plated hand sockets, or;
- c) a tool used to launch socket extensions across the garage floor at 40 mph or better.



Upcoming Events

(POCC Club events are in bold).

POCC Club meetings are held at the Denny's at 710 West Shaw in Clovis. Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

January:

12th: Car Show Meeting: We will meet at 6pm at Denny's, just prior to our regular monthly meeting.

12th: Monthly Meeting: Meet in the banquet room at Denny's, 710 W. Shaw Ave. Clovis CA. 559-298-8706. Dinner at 6:30pm, meeting at 7 to 8:30pm.

24th-25th: Turlock Swap meet: Info to be decided at the meeting on the 12th.

February:

7th: Tustin Car Show: This will be the first show we will have our flyers for our show in April, plus we will be pushing our regional show in '05. A nice turnout will help us! A group will depart on Friday afternoon, overnight in Tustin and head home after the show. The show is limited to 100 this year, so you must Pre-register to guarantee a spot. If you plan on going, contact Brian for a registration form.

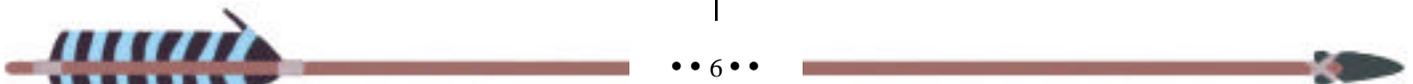
9th: Monthly Meeting: Meet in the banquet room at Denny's, 710 W. Shaw Ave. Clovis CA. 559-298-8706. Dinner at 6:30pm, meeting at 7 to 8:30pm.

15th: Daytona 500 Party: Still up in the air, I will post "Yea or Nea" as soon as I know.

March:

6th: Blossom Trail Run: Meet at 8:30am at a place yet to be determined. After the run we will travel to Sanger for the Lovegren Pontiac Show. The show is \$20.00 with the money being a donation to Sanger High.

8th: Monthly Meeting: Meet in the banquet room at Denny's, 710 W. Shaw Ave. Clovis CA. 559-298-8706. Dinner at 6:30pm, meeting at 7 to 8:30pm.



For Sale

Weather striping, seat covers, head liners, sun visors, seat belts and carpets for most makes and models. Call Dennis Baker, (559) 322-8441.

1968 Hurst Olds. Needs restoration. \$8,900. Call Dennis Baker at (559) 322-8441.

Tempest, GTO & LeMans 1964 to 1967 parts. Left & right fenders, some trim, lenses and miscellaneous parts. Call Andy Hoff at (559) 298-4527 for complete list and prices.

Miscellaneous 67 GTO parts. Fenders, bumpers, AC parts, some trim. Call Sam Fisher at (559) 674-0821 for complete list.

1968 Pontiac Executive Safari station wagon. New paint, carpets & headliner, seats in excellent shape, one crack in dash pad. Factory AC. New tires with newly painted Rally II wheels. All glass original and in good shape except for rear power window which has scratch marks from metal bracket. Engine and trans in good shape. \$5,495 OBO. Sam Fisher (559) 674-0821



Miscellaneous 69 Firebird parts. Hood, tail lights, dash, grills, rear seat springs, console. 66 GTO rear bumper, some trim. Call Victor Weitzel at (559) 692-2900.

1955 Pontiac 2 bbl intake with carburator \$75 OBO. Other miscellaneous 55 parts. Two sets of tail lights for 69 Firebird. Contact Rick DiGiacomo at (401) 934-0663 or frdigi@aol.com

Wanted

Timing chain cover for 1966 Pontiac 389. Call Dave Valla at (559) 292-9441.

400 CID Pontiac 4 BBL motor. 69 or 70 years only, will pay up to \$450. Call Tim Saltzman at (559) 645-0946.

Tilt steering column and clear/black wheel for 67 Firebird. Call Rick DiGiacomo at (401) 934-0663 or frdigi@aol.com

Set of Honeycomb wheels. Contact Dave Bettencourt at (559) 867-0340 or baadgoat@webtv.net

Officers for 2004

Here are the newly elected officers for the year 2004. Remember the positions of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster are appointed by the new board of officers.

President - Andy Hoff

Vice President - Gayle Huls

Secretary - Dennis Baker

Treasurer - Bill Truckell

Activities - Brian Massey

Newsletter - Joel Garrett

Webmaster - Brian Massey

PONTIACS



Pontiacs of Central California (POCC) is a club for owners and lovers of Pontiacs. The club members range from young guys and gals to old guys, who own all types of Pontiacs from the Muscle to the Luxury cars. A few members don't even own Pontiacs, they simply like them. Club dues are \$24 per calendar year or \$2.00 per month for the remainder of any calendar year. Members must also join the Pontiac/Oakland Club International (POCI). POCI dues are \$25 per year and includes a subscription to the POCI monthly magazine - "Smoke Signals". The magazine alone is worth the \$25. It's full of interesting Pontiac stories, tips on doing Pontiac things, as well as free advertising for members. Since this magazine goes out world wide, it is a great place to find parts or that special Pontiac you have been searching for.



January 2004

Joel Garrett
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Pontiacs of Central California Officers for 2003

President	Andy Hoff	
	pontiac335@aol.com	
Vice Pres.	Gayle Huls	661-0889
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Secretary	Dennis Baker	322-8441
	socalolds@aol.com	
Treasurer	Bill Truckell	226-4049
	goldengoat70@webtv.net	
Newsletter	Joel Garrett	292-9130
	calbug61@aol.com	
Activities/ Webpage	Brian Massey	645-8018
	bjmassey@bigfoot.com	

(All area codes are 559)

Club meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Denny's restaurant at 710 West Shaw in Clovis. Meetings start at 7:00 pm. Please feel free join us.

