

The Straight Arrow



The Monthly Newsletter of the Pontiacs of Central California
February 2006

www.pontiacsofcentralcalifornia.org
Webmaster - Brian Massey - bjmassey@bigfoot.com



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President's Message

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER

POCC has a successful newsletter. By successful I mean it is published consistently and is also routinely placed on the club's internet site. Since I have only been a member a relatively short time, I can offer an opinion regarding the content of the newsletter only for that time period. In my observations, a lot of the content is routine in nature with information carried over month to month. It is informative in keeping us up to date on club activities but I think it needs to go a step further and it will not be difficult to do. However, we cannot expect the Newsletter editor to do it alone. His responsibility is to be the editor—not necessarily the writer.

In reviewing past issues of the newsletter what I think is missing is member articles pertaining to club activities, member profiles, member cars—just anything to do with who we are and what our membership is up to. I know several of you have written articles in the past but we need to expand this by bringing in more member participation. It's easy to do. Maybe a brief article providing a profile of yourself, who you are outside of the club, your past experiences with old cars maybe even an interesting experience outside of the car world. I know several efforts have been made to have members write about themselves—maybe we should try it again.

To provide an example, in the past month I have written an article on an interesting experience I had with an ebay buyer that resides in Laos and is restoring an old Pontiac. I also will write an article on an interesting Firebird convertible that my brother-in-law just purchased. I know these are Pontiac specific things but we can and should go beyond this especially in the member profile area. If we want a better than just "successful" newsletter we will all have to contribute.

Minutes of the January 9, 2006 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President elect Bill Richard.

There were no visitors or guests present.

A tentative agenda for the meeting was passed out by Bill Richards.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November meeting. The minutes were approved.

A treasurers report was read by Bill Truckell.

Sam Fisher reported on the newsletter and said that everything is going well.

Brian Massey gave a webmaster report. Send items of interest, stories, pictures, etc. to him for posting on our website.

There was some discussion about the report of our Western Regional Convention to the P.O.C.I.. Andy Hoff said he had sent the results of our Convention with pictures to the P.O.C.I.. There was some problem with the pictures. Andy is going to resubmit in a few days.

A report on activities for the 2006 year was made by Joel Garret. A schedule was passed out. A review of the 2005 agenda was done month by month with possible changes for the 2006 year. Some items are confirmed, but most tentative dates have to be checked. A new Tri-power Committee was established to choose the activities for the year. The committee consists of Andy Hoff, Carl Smith and Joel Garrett.

Under Old Business there was a discussion about the 2008 Western Regional. A motion was made and seconded to submit our Club for the event. The motion passed.

There was discussion about the donation of the Western Regional revenues. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded

With the National convention being in California this year, a lot of us will be attending. During this convention several competitions will occur. These include awards for best internet site, best club display and best newsletter. With so many of us attending, I think we should participate in all of these competitions, especially the one for the best newsletter. To do this we need to submit our newsletters dating back to July 05, as well as future ones up to June 06. During the time we have left we need to expand the participation of our membership in the contribution of articles, as this is one of the criteria utilized in judging the newsletters. However, we need not to forget to keep this effort going into the future, to make our newsletter even more "successful."

Bill Richards

Dues are Due

Just a reminder that if your 2006 dues are not paid in full by the end of March you will no longer be a member in good standing in POCC. This means you will no longer be able to argue about, I mean discuss, important events as they come up at club meetings, you will no longer be able to vote on those important items and you will no longer be receiving the newsletter.

BUT, most importantly, if your dues are not paid by the end of the next meeting, that would be February 13, 2006, you will not be eligible for the monthly drawing. Since it is up to \$60 now, your dues of \$24 for the year seem small indeed.

Remember, no dues, not eligible for drawing, and as usual you must be present to win.

to donate \$3200 of P.O.C.C funds. Added to that amount will be the refund from the awards dinner. The motion passed. Wish Upon A Star is the organization that will be receiving this donation.

Andy Hoff reported on the sponsorship of a car class at the National Convention. Our club will be sponsoring the 1964-1967 semi-modified class.

Under New Business there was discussion about updating the club roster. It was suggested by Sam Fisher that this be done after membership dues are all collected.

There was discussion on our April 29th car show. Chairperson sign-ups were done. A sign-up sheet was passed around and members signed up to volunteer their help. A date was set for a chairperson's meeting on January 26 at Carl's Junior- Willow & Shaw. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and any members that want to may attend.

A motion was made to put together an annual treasurers report for the members to view. After some discussion and clarification, the motioned was seconded and passed.

The attendants drawing was done. With \$50 up for grabs, Glen Igo's number was drawn. Because Glen was not in attendance, next months drawing will be for \$60. Sorry Glen.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively, Dennis Schwarz



COLD WAR PONTIACS

Pontiacs of Central California member Sam Troncoso has always been a collector of old Pontiac parts but recently decided to try out selling some of them on eBay. So he gathered up several items that he thought might stir some interest on eBay but then had to figure out how to do it. The easiest route was to ask a fellow club member, Bill Richards, to list them on his eBay sellers account. So several pictures later all the ads were composed and placed on eBay.



Several days after these ads were placed Bill Richards received an email from a prospective buyer who resided in the country of Laos. Although the ads said no international sales, this person was adamantly interested in purchasing a steering wheel ring for a 1956 Star Chief. At first he was told that this would not be considered but after hearing the story of his old 56 Pontiac that he had in Laos, an exception was made.

In communications with Dr. Bertand Martines-Aussel, it appears that he is a French national expatriated and living in Laos. The car is a 1956, 4 door that he believes to be a Canadian 860 Chieftain Sedan. He also believes this is the only one of its kind in Laos

and was told that the car was imported to Laos for the military attaché' at the former US Embassy.

The 56 sedan was found in wrecked condition and being used for wood storage. Without the financial resources to do an original restoration Bertrand stated that his main focus will be to restore the outer portions of the car to look original. However, critical items like engines are very expensive to come up with in Laos, so it was necessary to explore other resources. The car is now equipped with a V 6 Toyota engine! The car is just in the initial stages of body restoration and will also receive new paint.



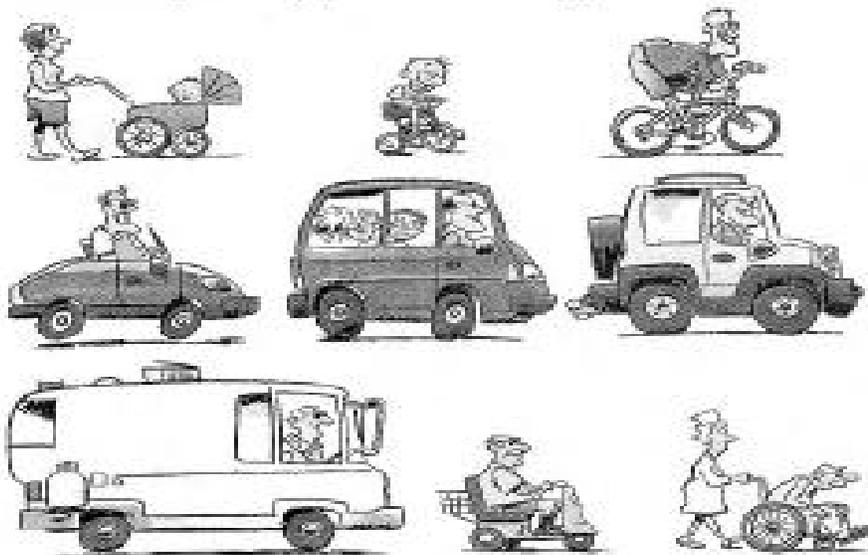
An interesting note is that the sister vehicle, the 1956 station wagon, has been correctly restored by a Swedish owner of a Scandinavian Bakery, also in Laos. This car is believed to have also been built in Canada and factory fitted with a straight 6 truck engine. Designed for use by the US Army, its rugged

construction was ideal for the rough roads of Laos. There is evidence that The Station Wagon was shipped to Laos along with a sedan of the same year and model, for use by the US Embassy. It appears that it was common practice for embassies to buy cars in such pairs-the sedan for official use, the station wagon for other uses.

This can only show you that there are Pontiac lovers every where. Not being a 1956 Star Chief or Chieftain experts (we're not even sure the steering wheel ring will work!), we could not offer further assistance on Bertrand's search for parts. However, this might be a time for others in this country to provide assistance to a fellow Pontiac restorer. Bertrand Martinez-Aussel Email: meditrop@laopdr.com



The Wheels of Life



Upcoming Events

(POCC Club events are in bold).

POCC monthly meetings are held at the Denny's at 710 West Shaw in Clovis. Order dinner between 6:00 and 6:30, meetings start at 7:00 pm.

February:

13th: 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.

18th: Valentine Mystery Cruise: Meet at the Sonic Burger, Herndon & Fowler. We will depart at 9am sharp!! Email Joel for more info: calbug61@aol.com

19th: Daytona 500 Party: Confirmed; The Daytona 500 party will be at the Portuguese hall in Easton. Take Fwy 41 South to American Ave.; turn right (West) to Elm Ave. (old Hwy 41); turn left (South) to Jefferson; turn right (West) to 172 West Jefferson. A wonderful BBQ lunch will be available for \$10.00, the hall will provide a "No-Host" bar, and if you drive your "classic", you will get up-front parking.

March:

4th: Lovegren Motors Charity Car Show: NOTE: This event has officially been cancelled for this year. It is promised to be back next year bigger and better. Those of you who have pre-registered will have your check returned.

13th: 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.

April:

10th: 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.

28th: Pre-show BBQ: Don Bonander will again host the fabulous Friday Night Mini Car Show & BBQ. Starts at 6 PM at the Vintage Dealership, 1 block East of the show field. Free to all who have pre-registered! Details to follow.

29th: Central Valley Classic: Our annual all Pontiac/Oldsmobile/Buick/Cadillac & GMC Truck Show. It will be at Madera County Courthouse Park from 8am to 3pm. We will have food, music, raffle, awards and lots of fun. For more info: email Joel at calbug61@aol.com

Valentine's Day Tuesday, February 14



Ladies, don't forget Valentine's Day. This might be that Golden Opportunity to get the man in your life that Pontiac he has always wanted.

And Guys, remember, Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend!!!!!!



For Sale

1955 Pontiac items for sale. '55 Pontiac bumper/grill guard. It is in original condition, but it does bow down some in the middle but no rust, no cracks or splits or pitting. Asking \$300. Perfect set of 1955 Pontiac Chieftain 2 door hardtop stainless trim. It does need to be polished, but this trim is PERFECT! No dents, scratches, dings, cracks, nothing. Asking \$400. Email Rob Radcliffe at chopt50@msn.com for more info.

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.

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

Miscellaneous 69 Firebird parts. Convertible brackets, pump and cylinders. Hood, tail lights, dash, grills, rear seat springs and console. Also a 66 GTO rear bumper and miscellaneous trim. Call Victor Weitzel at (559) 692-2900.

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

1976 Formula Firebird, 95% restored. Pictures at photos.yahoo.com/gearheads1967. Contact Victor Weitzel at 559-692-2900 or ipw@sti.net.

1978 Trans Am, SE. T-top with snoflakes. 1 of 210, needs restoration. Contact Victor Weitzel at 559-692-2900 or ipw@sti.net.

1964 GTO (California Black Plate/numbers matching) going up for sale this Spring. I am looking for either a 1969 GTO Judge or a 1968 GTO 400 HO. Call or e-mail Les Paciorek at 1-740-543-8861 or loggy@mindspring.com

Wanted

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

Thanks Andy

Andy Hoff finally gets to relax and just be a normal member after serving two "long" years as president. I know he won't miss Joel and me bugging him for the monthly President's message for the newsletter, presiding over the meeting each month (keeping order and making sense of everything that gets said) and I'm sure he will enjoy getting to once again eat his meal in peace and quiet (well maybe the quite part is not really true).



I know that all club members will join me in thanking Andy for a job well done. Enjoy the new found freedom of being just one of the members at future meetings.



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 \$31 per year and includes a subscription to the POCI monthly magazine - "Smoke Signals". The magazine alone is worth the \$31. 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.

Pontiacs of Central California Officers for 2006

President	Bill Richards	431-8742 bgrichards@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres.	Carl Smith	834-4933 gorillaspad@webtv.net
Secretary	Dennis Schwarz	323-1064 gtohorman2c@aol.com
Treasurer	Bill Truckell	226-4049 billtruckell@abcglobel.net
Activities	Joel Garrett	292-9130 calbug61@aol.com
Newsletter	Sam Fisher	664-9431 fisher_s@comcast.net
Webmaster	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.



Sam Fisher
908 Suburban Ave
Madera CA 93736

February 2006

