

The Straight Arrow



The Monthly Newsletter of the Pontiacs of Central California
April 2008

www.pontiacsofcentralcalifornia.org
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President's Message

I HATE MY TRUCK!!!!

As some of you may or may not know, one (of the numerous) fringe benefits of my job is that my employer supplies me with a company vehicle. From 1999 to 2004 I drove a Chevy Lumina as my company car. Before that I drove Ford Taurus and Mercury Sables. The Lumina served me well, but after 5 years and 250K miles, the time came to replace it. I somehow convinced my boss that I needed and deserved a pickup truck as a replacement. He agreed (shows what a good salesman I really am).

I chose a 2004 Chevy Silverado half ton Crewcab with tow package. At present I have driven this truck almost 170K trouble free miles (a few thousand of those miles with my car trailer behind). It averages about 18 mpg, and I have gotten as good as 21 mpg on some long trips. It will even get 15mpg towing my trailer with a car on it. It will carry 4 people in great comfort, or up to 6 if need be. The 5.3 V8 has plenty of pep and I have surprised quite a few Hondas at the stoplight drags. I get 60K miles out of a set of tires, the truck drives nicely in any and all weather, I feel very comfortable and safe in it, I sit up high with great visibility, and it still looks good with its shiny red paint. So you can understand why I say "I HATE MY TRUCK".

Let me explain. I spend a lot of my free time looking at vehicles for sale. It's just an addiction I have never overcome. I search Ebay, Craigslist, Autotrader, Great Old Cars.com, Classical Pontiac, Fresno Bee, Clovis Independent, you get the idea. Like the other day I saw a "deal" on a super clean early 70's Dodge pickup. It had a reasonable asking price, great classic lines, and best of all it was smog exempt. I thought to myself that this would be a great vehicle to take to or bring junk home from auto swapmeets. Then I remind myself I have my Chevy truck, and do not need a vehicle to do that. A few months

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Minutes of March 10, 2008 Meeting

The meeting was called to order @ 7 pm by our esteemed president Joel Garrett.

Guest Speaker - At the request of the club members Linda Dipple from the United Way spoke briefly about the Toys-for-Tots charity, its history, background, and mission.

February meeting minutes were seconded and approved.

Treasurers report - We are in the black with 33 paid members and 10 associates.

Newsletter Update - No discussion

Website update - No Discussion

Old Business - Curt Gunderson updated us on the State closing a number of State Parks and what the State is doing and not doing about it. He urged everyone to sign a petition he passed around and asked members to contact their State Representatives.

Ron Berglund requested that if anyone is in need of name tags to contact him.

This is a reminder to Dennis Baker is to remember to bring the club dash plaques to the next meeting.

Western Regional - Two local charities the "Wish upon a Star" charity and "Big Brothers & Big Sisters" (BBBS) were the two charities the club decided to vote on to receive proceeds from the Western Regional event. Brian and Janet Massey talked about the Wish Upon a Star charity and Ren Hallet talked about the BBBS's. After further discussion secret ballots were passed out and the Wish Upon a Star charity won by a slight margin and will be the charity to receive our donation.

New Business - Congratulations to Tom and Paula Yost for their 50th wedding anniversary.

WOPOCC discussions will be tabled until next meeting.

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President's message continued.....

ago I ran across another deal on a full size Pontiac 4 door.. Pretty clean car, good price, and I thought to myself here is a cool car I can haul all my friends around in. Then I remembered that damn Chevy 4-door truck in my driveway. I almost bid on a really clean , super cheap 1 ton heavy duty Ford truck I saw on Ebay. It was fairly close by, set up for towing, and did I say cheap!! I thought here is a great tow vehicle. But then I remember my Silverado has towed everything I have needed to be towed with no problems, DAMN. I have always had a thing for station wagons. I saw a perfect Wagon for sale last summer and came close to making an offer with the idea that it will make an excellent daily driver in addition to hauling people and stuff in style, but you guessed it, there was my old reliable Chevy.

I am sure you get the point. There are a ton of vehicles I would enjoy owning and using in one capacity or another, but because of that %&^%\$#& Chevy pickup, I cannot justify the expense. My Chevy truck seems to do every thing I need it to do just great. Its relatively fast, economical and reliable, It can carry lots of people and lots of stuff. It made it feasible for me to buy my own car trailer so I didn't have to ask Sam Fisher to borrow his truck and trailer (thanks again Sam). I like the way it looks and am not embarrassed to take it anywhere. So in closing I would just like to reiterate

I LOVE MY TRUCK!!

Joel

Minutes continued.....

Past Activities - Valentine Mystery Cruise ended in Merced and was very successful. Thanks to Brian M. The Hilmar Cruise was as successful and a thank you went out to Dave V. as well. The Blossom Trail and "Tire Changing Cruise" was well attended and everyone had a great time. Thanks to all who put that on.

Upcoming Activities - Some upcoming activities discussed were the Visalia Church Show, Dan Siebert filled us in on the upcoming Blackhawk Museum cruise on March 30th. Morro Bay is the first weekend in May. The Kingsburg Car Show is April 19th and starting soon on the last Friday of each month in Kingsburg is a cruise night on Main street.

Western Regional - Brian Massey updated us all on the status of entrants and other neat stuff happening with the show. There are currently 46 pre-registered and a lot more entrants just arrived bringing the total up even higher. Everyone in the club will have a job.

Club merchandise - There was a brisk run on show apparel displayed by Bill Truckell after the meeting. Good idea Bill.

Attendance drawing - -Keith Honeycutt was the winner of this months attendance raffle but was not available to collect. Remember you must be there to collect. Next months drawing will be for \$30.

Respectfully submitted by Dennis Baker sitting in for Dennis Schwarz.



Maybe there is something to this Global Warming controversy. And then again maybe it is not a bad thing. Guess it all depends on your point of view!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I forget who sent this in, but thanks for taking the time to do so.

Blossom Trail Run

by

Dennis Simonson

Saturday, March 8, 2008

As a member of Pontiacs of Central California, Diane and I have enjoyed several car outings in the past. So, when I heard that there was going to be a Blossom Trail Run with the Car Club, I decided it was time to retrieve my Pontiac out of storage and make repairs so it would be drivable. The last time the Pontiac was driven was over two years ago for a Club Valentine's Car Run. I had prepared the Pontiac in plenty of time for the run, but when the day of the run occurred, the radiator sprung a leak. I guess it was a good thing to happen in our driveway instead of being several miles away from home. Diane and I went on the run, but with our daily driver vehicle. Mike's Radiator rebuilt my original radiator from the Pontiac and reinstalled it in the vehicle, changed oil and filter, and installed new after market factory mirrors on Pontiac. The Pontiac only came with one outside mirror on driver's side. Adding one to right side was a blessing. Now lane changes while driving eliminates running other vehicles off the road!



The Blossom Run started at Cinnamonster on the NE corner of Nees and Willow Avenue. For you folks that don't know, Cinnamonster's is managed by Paula and Tom Yost's son, Greg



Griggs originally headed up this run but had family emergency and then turned it over to Dave Valla. After everyone had their coffee and pastries, the run was ready to start. But first, Carl Smith brought his dice game along and forced us to be subject to mental pain and anguish. Rolling the dice for points is not one that is in favor of me winning. But, if the truth be known, I secretly like playing this game. Just don't tell Carl. After the dice game, everyone loaded up in their Pontiac and headed out for the Blossom Trail. The weather that day couldn't have been better. The sun was out and there was a slight breeze blowing. The blossoms were out and smelled so sweet. The trees that were in blossom were mainly stone fruit and almond. Although we passed orange and lemon orchards, their blossoms come out in April.



The first stop was at Shaw and Academy shopping center. Bad roll for me on the dice game?? We then proceeded down Academy to Belmont Avenue with Dave leading. Dave, the lead vehicle, drove over a screwdriver lying out on the road. This resulted in a punctured right rear tire. I guess you could say that today GTO meant "Got Time Out." Dave made it to Belmont Avenue east bound and pulled over to the side. Club members flocked around Dave's GTO and helped change the tire. Carl kept the dice in the trunk of his





car. After the unscheduled stop, we proceeded out to Minkler and onto Kings Canyon Road. We turned south unto Cove Avenue, then to American where cars were stopped to throw the dice again. As people passed by us with our old cars parked along American Avenue, I think they were looking at us throwing dice on the back of Carl's GTO more than looking at the cars. If anyone would have stopped and asked I would tell them it was a "Brake and Shake" dice game. I maintained lousy points with game.

We then traveled east to Hwy 63, south bound to Summer Avenue, and into Orange Cove with now me leading. Orange Cove is a nice little town, and people waved at us as we drove through with our Pontiacs. We then went south to Manning Avenue and into Reedly. The final dice throw was held in the parking lot at Main Street Café in Reedly. And as you have already figured out, I lost. Eventually Keith Watt from the Pontiac Club won it all. But I would be willing to try it one more time maybe?? Main Street Café is a great place to go for food. Their homemade German sausage was excellent. Everyone had a great lunch and good conversation. The day turned out excellent. Everyone had a safe trip and had enjoyed the seeing and smelling the blossoms. Best of all, my Pontiac worked liked it should. We will be looking forward to the next Car Club Run. I might even consider letting Diane drive the Pontiac, her old car!??



You gotta love those big ole Pontiac trunks. Big enough for a full size spare as well as a guy to help change the tire when needed.



A big thanks to Dennis for the great article and super pictures.



Hey Clyde, check out all of that horsepower and shiny chrome!!!



Upcoming Events

(POCC Club events are in bold).

POCC monthly meetings are held at the Yosemite Falls Cafe, Highway 99 and Ashlan. Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

April

12th: Cat Haven trip has been postponed until later.

12th: *Cruise to the restored 1934 Richfield Station in Coalinga with the Chevy Club.* We will be meeting at the Denny's at Jensen and Hwy 99 at 9:00am and leaving at 9:30 sharp. We are planning to go down Hwy 41 to Hwy 198 to Coalinga and arrive at the Richfield Station somewhere around 11:00. They are supposed to have someone open up the station and museum for viewing, photos and use of the restrooms. We then plan to leave when everyone is ready and cruise over to Hanford for a stop for late lunch at Superior Dairy. Any questions call Keith Watts; home# 225-8515, cell# 906-2766

14th: *General Membership Meeting at the Yosemite Falls Café.*

19th: *Kingsburg Car Show; Meet at 7:30am at the central Fowler exit off 99 across from the Starbucks on Merced Street in Fowler. We will depart at 8:00am sharp to caravan to the car show. Any questions call Carl Smith: 834-4933 or 916-3505*

24th: *Regional Convention Meeting; We have a meeting for the regional convention planned! The meeting will be at the Yosemite Falls Cafe (Ashlan & 99) on Thursday April 24 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in the same room as our regular meeting is held. We have lots to discuss, as well as introduce our new Ads & Sponsorships Chair Person; Ren Hallett!*

Ren has graciously taken on this job, and he is well prepared for it as it falls in line with his profession. Everyone is invited, and your presence will be greatly appreciated!!

May

2nd: San Simeon Cruise. Activities include the Morro Bay Car Show, beach party, shopping and of course the Saturday night BBQ at Bill and Judy's beach house in Cayucos. For those of you who will be entering your cars in the car show or if you just want to cruise over early plan on meeting at the parking lot on Shields and Freeway 41, southeast corner (the usual meeting spot) in time for a 11 am departure Friday, May 2nd. At present there are no plans for those of you who might want to cruise over together on Saturday. Regardless of when you drive over be sure to make your reservations at the San Simeon Lodge, 9520 Castillo Drive, San Simeon. Phone number 866-990-8990 (this is a change in motels, so if you already made reservations at the Silver Surf Motel (800-621-3999) you might want to cancel them. Rooms at the San Simeon are \$75 per night for an ocean view and \$65 per night without.

For the Saturday night BBQ, the club will again furnish the meat, salad and rolls. Be sure to bring what you want to drink, chairs to sit on and blankets, jackets and flashlights for the bon fire on the beach.

For any questions or further information you can contact Dan Seibert at 289-1775.

12th: *General Membership Meeting at the Yosemite Falls Café.*

24th: Progressive Dinner. Details to follow.



For Sale

1973 Lemans, 350 V-8, with a Turbo 400 tranny. Car has A/C, power windows, buckets with a factory floor shift and console. NICE floors (trunk floor was replaced), Rest of body has typical issues. Bubbles in front fenders Bubbles behind doors. Doors Are MINT!! (These doors are some of the best I've seen on one of these cars) Car needs paint. Motor has serious miles on it and is tired. Tranny is in great shape. Currently has four new tires with Rally II wheels. Car has a '75 NASA hood. Grand Am tail lights, GTO Grilles. Economy bumpers without rubber or guards. The car is equipped with dual exhaust that is only a few years old. It has the double hump crossmember. Car also has an Edelbrock Torker intake and an Edelbrock 650 cfm carb. Accel HEI distributor. Car has Grand Am style interior with Lemans Dash. New red carpet. Also has GTO front and rear sway bars. I have the two speed rear window defogger fan installed \$750 or best offer. The car hasn't moved under it's own power in about a year. Might make a long drive.....might not. Play it safe and tow it or trailer it

I have numerous parts for a 73-77 Lemans. If anybody needs something they can call or e-mail me.

Also Available:

1973 Pontiac 400 engine. No intake, exhaust manifolds or distributor. Is bored .030 over. Ran VERY strong when pulled. \$200

Saginaw 4 speed manual transmission. I don't know what it's out of or if it works. \$100

Set of 4 15" Honeycomb wheels (The steel ones covered in rubber) Comes with 4 centers and 1 trim ring and a can of touch up paint: \$350

Edelbrock performer intake with front crossover cut off. Comes with a cast iron crossover \$30

Cast iron 4 bbl intake for a 72 Grandville \$40

All items are located in Johnston, Rhode Island and again all prices are very negotiable.

Call Ron Lambert at (401) 351-1528 or e-mail at Am73grand@aol.com

1963 Pontiac Catalina 2 dr hardtop, factory gauges inc tach and vacuum gauge, 8 lug wheels with newer tires, 4.10 posi, reverb, PW, 4 sp car w/orig tranny. 389 was the original eng but it is gone, a 455 block and misc other eng parts go with the car. \$2000 OBO. Contact Bill Richards, 431-8742 if interested.

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) 760-2313.

Four original wire wheel covers for a 68 Firebird that I once owned. They are in good condition. Call Mike at (559) 846-6584

1955 Front Bumper Guard Set. I have two. One set is NOS (\$500 or best). The second set is used and needs to be rechromed (\$200 or best). Shipping not included. Please call or contact me at either 401-934-0663 or frdigi@cox.net . Rick



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

President	Joel Garrett	292-9130 calbug61@aol.com
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Treasurer	Dennis Baker	322-8441 socialolds@aol.com
Activities	Greg Griggs	322-4005 autoguy50@hotmail.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 Yosemite Falls Cafe, Highway 99 and Ashlan Ave in Fresno, CA. Meetings starts at 7:00 pm.



April 2008

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