



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PCPV CHAPTER OF POCI
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011



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PCPV News
September/October 2011

Volume 14 ~ 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 \$20.00 per year (U.S. funds, \$25.00 outside of U.S.) and are payable on January 1st. Note that membership in the Pontiac-Oakland Club, International (POCI) is a prerequisite for joining the PCPV Chapter.

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

Greetings Pontiac, GMC and Oakland Lovers!

On August 21st, we held the 29th Annual Pontiac, GMC and Oakland show in Omaha, Nebraska. We had one Oakland in attendance, it was from the Kansas City area. Our very special guest was Jim Wangers, the "Father of the GTO." Jim gave another interesting talk. If you have never heard him speak, try to attend an event that he will be at. I stated that this was our 29th annual show. After much discussion it has been decided that next year's show (the 30th annual) will be our last. Most of the people have been working the show every year and they are tired. There are not enough new people stepping up to help. I had a special guest, our very own VP, **Mike Leonard** attended the show. He did not show a car, but he said he would try to bring one next year.

The 40th annual POCI Convention will be held in St. Charles, Illinois. If you plan on going, register ASAP.

Until next time, keep those classic cars going!

*Chuck Roberts,
PCPV Chapter President*

Welcome New Member

John (Jack) Lehnoff
Edison, NJ

1960 Strato Chief
2-door Station Wagon
*(Jack has a 1960 Start Chief
4-door available for parts)*

Returning Member

Cary Birenbaum
Tucson, AZ



- 1949 Pontiac Sedan Delivery
- 1956 Pontiac Safari
- 1961 Bonneville





1959 Bonneville Safari - ebay Item #150678161627

Wow - now that's a classic Pontiac wagon! The eBay ad stated:

1959 Pontiac Bonneville Safari station wagon with 68,806 original miles. Original California dry climate vehicle with original black plates. Factory: 389 V8, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, wonderbar radio, GM accessory roof rack, spinner hubcaps, power rear window, and EZ-Eye glass. This wagon had previously been parked since 1981 in a garage in Southern California. This is a rare opportunity to get a very original 59 Bonneville wagon...they don't come up for sale often like this. The 1959 Pontiac Bonneville Safari wagon was the top of the line and the most expensive car Pontiac offered.

The bidding started at \$1,000 and the Bonnie ending up selling at \$23,988.





Looking Out the Back Door

Another car show season is winding down here in Minnesota. We had a great Fall Car Show and BBQ with the Tomahawk Chapter, nearly 100 cars in attendance. We have been treated to some very nice weather which has allowed us to extend the time to enjoy our collector cars, but now it's time to start thinking about getting the vehicles ready for storage.

Officer Nominations

We are open for PCPV Officer nominations. If you are interested in serving as President or Vice-President in 2012, please let us know. The requirements are to be a member in good standing of POCI and the PCPV Chapter and a willingness to help our chapter grow.

I am able to continue on as secretary, newsletter editor and website administrator and **Terry Columbus** is willing to stay on as Treasurer for another year.

Thanks to **April Warner** for her photos, and the **Ashland Daily Tidings** and **Graham Lewis** for permission to reprint the article and photo of the 1969 Pontiac ambulance. The photos of National Pontiacs on the cover were found on eBay.

Keeping the Pontiac Legacy Alive...
Paul Bergstrom, Editor

A vintage advertisement for the National Imperial Flower Car. The ad features a side view of a dark-colored pickup truck with a flower bed in the bed. The text reads: 'NOW ADDED to the Famous National Imperial Line the FIRST FLOWER CAR in the low price field'. Below the truck, it says 'NATIONAL IMPERIAL FLOWER CAR'. At the bottom, it says 'National BODY MANUFACTURING COMPANY KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA - PHONE 2-4525'. There is also a small paragraph of text describing the car's features and a note to 'WRITE FOR PRICE, SPECIFICATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS'.



1956 Pontiac Superior Hearse

A very nice original hearse that sold recently on eBay for \$9,799.66



1955 Pontiac Taxi

This '55 Pontiac photo (left) was shared recently on POCI's Facebook page.



For Sale: 1966 Bonneville Station Wagon (photo above): PHS documented (6,400 built), numbers matching, 389/325 hp, auto, factory a/c, tilt wheel, tinted glass, 3rd owner, restoration started. Needs upper control arm bushing \$2,500. **Richard Erman** (260) 495-9167 (IN)



Professional Pontiacs



From PCPV member **April Warner:**

The 14th ChicagoLand Emergency Vehicle Show August 6th, 2011. Pontiacs were spotted - it was a wonderful time!



April is working on this '63 Bonneville military ambulance.

The rider of the sodium storm



Rodger Busse poses by his restored 1969 Pontiac Bonneville ambulance at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

Photo credit: **Graham Lewis**, photograham.wordpress.com
Story by: **Vickie Aldous**, Ashland Daily Tidings

When Ashland (Utah) resident **Rodger Busse** received a 1969 Pontiac Bonneville ambulance that he had bought sight-unseen from Arizona, he couldn't figure out why salt was coating its undercarriage. "I found all this salt caked under there," he recalled.

After some detective work, Busse discovered the ambulance had been used at the site that inspired its name — the famous Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

The dried up, salt-covered lake bed west of Salt Lake City and the Great Salt Lake has been used since the early 1900s to set land speed records.

Firefighters from a Tooele Valley fire department in northwest Utah would travel to the Bonneville Salt Flats in the ambulance to be on hand in case of emergencies.

The chances for catastrophic accidents were high, especially since daredevil drivers pushed jet and rocket-powered vehicles faster than 600 miles per hour in the 1960s and 1970s, according to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, which manages the site.

Once Busse got the ambulance nine years ago, he power-washed the salt off and began the long process of restoring the vehicle. It was a difficult process since the vehicle started out as a Pontiac Bonneville car that was then extended and custom made into an ambulance using assorted parts.

To restore the ambulance, Busse used everything from hubcaps to fenders to doors that he got off Pontiac, Buick and Oldsmobile vehicles.

“It’s kind of a jigsaw puzzle,” he said.

Local photographer Graham Lewis helped Busse with the restoration process. The two use the ambulance to promote their sales of Rust Doctor, a rust treatment often favored by classic car aficionados.

A few years ago, Busse and Lewis began talking about taking the ambulance on a dream trip back to the Bonneville Salt Flats.

Earlier this month, the two men made the pilgrimage to the salt flats. Busse said he was interested to see how drivers converge on the site and then disappear again.

“There’s nothing there, just salt flats. They come in with their trailers and speed-testing equipment. Each group racing a car sets up a pit area to work. They do their speed trials. Then they all put everything away and you just have the salt flats,” Busse said.

While the salt flats dry out in the summer, groundwater floods the area several inches deep in the winter. The edges of the summer salt crust can have underlying mud, according to the BLM.

The infamous Donner party, which resorted to cannibalism during a winter spent trapped in the Sierra Nevada mountains, was delayed before reaching the mountains when their wagon wheels became mired in salt flats mud, according to the BLM.

After returning from his recent trip to the salt flats, Busse had an all-too-familiar chore to take care of — power-washing the salt from his historic ambulance. Busse said he has enjoyed restoring the Bonneville ambulance and learning about its history. Most of all, he enjoys seeing the smiles on the faces of kids and adults when he and Lewis drive it at classic car events, turning on its flashing lights and occasionally sounding the siren.

“People just love it,” Busse said. “We enjoy doing it because it makes us happy.”

Article reprinted with permission from the *Ashland Daily Tidings*.

Source: <http://www.dailytidings.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=%2F20110829%2FNEWS02%2F108290306>

PCPV "potpourri"



1956 Pontiac station wagon inspection car

<http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2007/10/cool-road-rail-vehicles.html>
(image credit: Leon Trice Photography, New Orleans)



For Sale: 1965 Pontiac Bonneville Superior Bodied limo-style combo (below): Runs and drives, current registration. Cosmetically challenged but comes with LOTS of spare parts. E-mail me for more pix.\$3,500.00 obo Pontiackarl@verizon.net (760) 947-9476

For Sale: 1949 Pontiac Sedan delivery/Ambulance (above): Has original flat head six, three speed, two door with third door in rear, has all glass. Driver and passenger floorboards are rusted, all trim intact. Conversion to an ambulance was done by Barnett Coachworks. We are asking \$1,800.00 for it. Contact Debbie at e-mail: wdolson@windstream.net or call (806) 881-1318 Claude, TX



PCPV Classified Ads *Pontiacs For Sale*



1951 Pontiac Sedan Delivery 350/350, paint 3 years old, Malibu Ivory with White Pearl and Sapphire Blue. Spare parts go with car. 2 front ends, original straight 8 engine, \$17,000 OBO. **Charlie Rucker** (419) 447-2626 (OH)



1962 Pontiac 2-door Grand Prix Station Wagon: the one that Pontiac never built! Built from a '62 Catalina 4dr wagon, factory air, power steering, power brakes, 8 lug wheels. \$16,500.00. **Gary Minor** (510) 636-1951



1956 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: Original car in need of restoration. 6 cylinder stick. Rust in front floor. \$5,000 as is or \$7,000 with all extra parts. NOS and repro parts to make nice. Only 1,383 made-need to sell! Contact: **Rod Brockman**, 24862 Ridge, Elwood, IL 60421 (815) 478-3633



1974 Pontiac Grand Safari Wagon, 455-auto, perfect rust-free California body with rally wheels and fender skirts. Needs paint. Super nice interior. Current restoration \$3,850 obo. Contact **Karl Eisbrenner** (760) 947-9476 or email pontiackarl@verizon.net

POCI's 2012 Convention

Register today!

On-line registration at poci.org



1976 Pontiac Catalina 6-door limousine 40K miles, 455 V8 auto, a/c, p/s, AM/FM radio. 2nd owner \$5,900 or best offer. **Chuck Roberts** (402) 734-1652 (NE)

Parts For Sale

Glass red lenses: (2) #9565 Unity Mfg Co. Chicago 6.750 o.d. by 1.250 dome. \$10.00 plus shipping. Contact **Terry Columbus** (763) 566-0293 after 5 pm CST.

1939-1952 Pontiac, all models, gear-shift lever bushing kit, G.M. #502488 \$5.95 shipped. 1951-1952 N.O.S. left front fender \$200.00, new Dry Original DELCO long battery 6 Volt model 418 with yellow caps, in the box \$135.00, 1928 solid Pontiac frame, make a good starter for Hot-rod. Contact: **Warren Gladbach**, 90 Spring Street, Hanson, MA 02341 (781) 447-5916

1955 Pontiac: I have (6) 287 CI engines with transmissions \$200-\$500 @. **Michael Koch** (937)486-1303 (OH) E-mail: mkoch11@hotmail.com

Pontiac and GM shop manuals, owners manuals, sales literature 1955-2004. What do you need, I might have it. **Rodney Brockman**, 24862 Ridge, Elwood, IL 60421 (815)478-3633

Parts/Pontiacs Wanted

1951 Pontiac Sedan Delivery (Canadian): radiator, 1-back up light for 1950 Pontiac Sedan. Contact. **Richard (Dick) Ginther**, (574) 293-6002 (M)

1951 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: 6 cyl., manual trans. I need dash components, exterior stainless, steering wheel and a radio. **Dennis Statz** Phone (920) 743-1105 or romance@whitlaceinn.com

1953 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: tail lights, rear bumper, rear pan, gas tank, head light bezels, grille. Contact **Ruben Garnica** (435) 272-4230 (Utah) (M)

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)

1952 Pontiac Sedan Delivery: I am looking for a Dealer Album and dealer showroom artifacts. **Dennis Rydel**, 8793 Akins Rd., N. Royalton, OH 44133 (440) 237-1810

1956 Pontiac 860 Station Wagon: third seat wanted.. Contact **Mike Wamboldt**, (262) 914-3355 or email mjw3355@gmail.com (M)



Wanted: 1960s-70s Pontiac ambulance. Robert Flesh (909) 673-0777 or email rtflesh@communityam.com

Wanted: Looking for vintage ambulance equipment to stock my '63 Pontiac ambulance: stretcher, Federal siren, jump seat and tail light covers. **April Warner** (651) 459-6092 (MN) heritageprincess@hotmail.com (M)



PCPV Chapter Fundraiser

“Chief Pontiac Paperweight”



Restoration Tips


Call me if you have mechanical problems or issues. I'll try to help all PCPV Chapter members. **Ron Panzer**, (815) 568-5405.

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

Hand crafted by Mike Leonard, PCPV vice-president. Details: These cool “Chief Pontiac” medals are made from clean lead (old wheel weights, old lead pipes, etc.). I first melt the lead down and then I pour it into a mold. I let it cool and if it comes out without many blemishes, I'll chrome plate it and finish cleaning and polishing it (size is approximately 2”). \$20 each shipping included Mike will donate a portion of the proceeds to the PCPV Chapter.

Send a check or money order made out to **Mike Leonard** and mail to: PO Box 14, Wood River, NE 68883


PCPV Chapter of POCI



*Pontiac Commercial and Professional Vehicle Chapter
of the Pontiac Oakland Club International*

Welcome to our new site!

Home	About PCPV	Officers	Membership	Newsletters	Contact Us
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Visit Our Web Site
pcvpoci.info

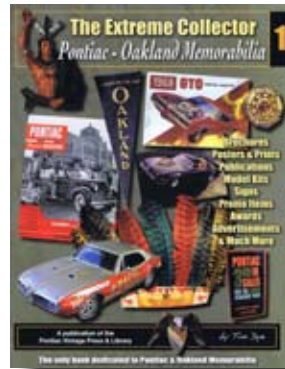
Please continue sending in photos of your vehicles and I'll get them posted to the "Chapter Member's Ride" page. Let me know what else you'd like to see on our web site. Email contributions to: pcpvnews@ties2.net - thanks!

**Member's password for
on-line newsletters
pontprocars**

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
pcpvnews@ties2.net
(or mail in to the Editor)**



**The Extreme Collector
Pontiac-Oakland
Memorabilia**
by Tim Dye,

**okchiefpontiac.com
for ordering details**

POCI MEMBERSHIP FORM

Pontiac Oakland GMC

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES:

For Renewal: POCI Number _____

*Style number on firewall of car; include best description of model, class, etc.

Year _____	Style Name/ Style Number* _____	No. Cylinders _____
Year _____	Style Name/ Style Number* _____	No. Cylinders _____
Year _____	Style Name/ Style Number* _____	No. Cylinders _____

Active Membership	Assoc. Membership
U.S. \$35.00	Each..... \$2.00.
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Signature _____

Pontiac-Oakland Club International
PO Box 88, Maple Plain, MN 55359
Phone: 877/368-3454
Fax: 763/479-3571
E-Mail: pociworldhq@aol.com

PCPV Chapter Membership Form

Indicate POCI Membership # _____

Annual Dues = \$20.00 Outside of U.S. = \$25.00

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE/PROV. _____

ZIP/POSTAL CODE: _____ PHONE: _____

email: _____

Vehicles owned: _____

Send check or money order made out to:
PCPV Chapter of POCI, c/o Terry Columbus
7516 Xerxes Avenue N.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

PCPV Chapter of POCI

c/o Paul Bergstrom, Editor
1165 County Road 83
Independence, MN 55359

