

1951 Pontiac Chieftain

In the early 2000's I found an ad in "Uncle Henry's" for a 1951 Pontiac in Alna, ME. I circled the ad and noted the page number on the cover of the book. As happens most of the time, I never acted on the ad. Fast forward to a cruise night in 2009 at Meetinghouse Market in Dresden when I found the very same car. At that point I know I'd made a mistake in not checking it out originally. It had been purchased by a very nice fellow named "Bucky" from Farmingdale. It turned out to be a very original unmolested car.



1951 Chieftain at Meetinghouse Market in 2009

I continued to run into the car from time to time at the Gardiner cruise in.



Gardiner Cruise in 2013

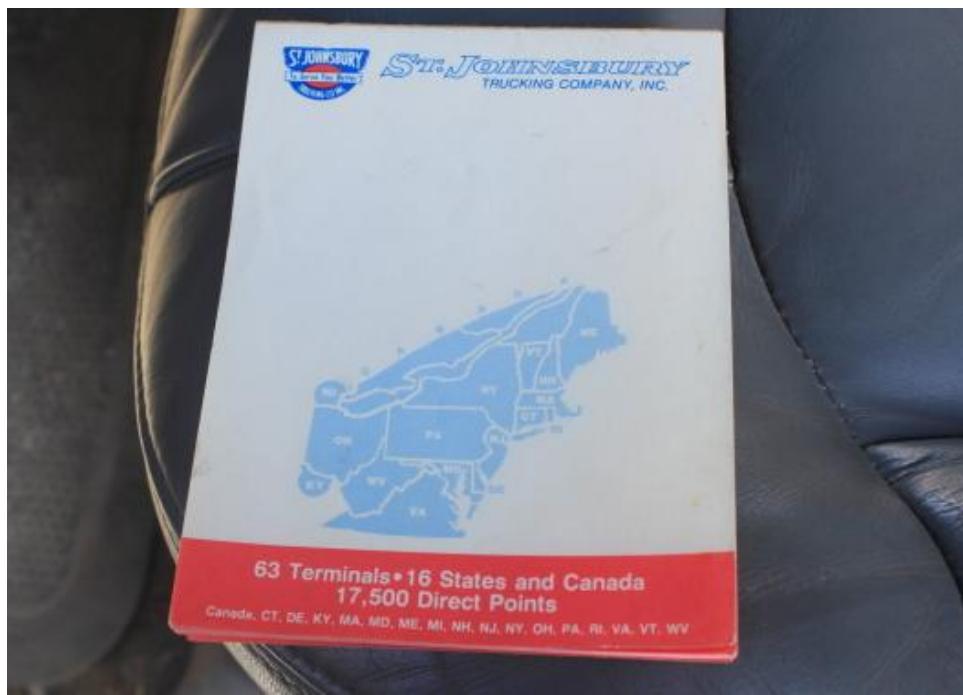
One interesting encounter was driving home from the GTOAM annual meeting I believe in May 2017. I wound up next to the 1951 at the stoplight in Manchester and had a conversation with the owner at the light! When 2018 rolled around the owner was getting to the point he should not be driving. I made him an offer on the car and stayed in touch. When it got to the point he was ready to give it up, I became the new caretaker.

I purchased the car on 8/31/2018 – A couple of weeks later I took it to the Gardiner Cruise In but found it to be starving for fuel at speed or on hills. That turned out to be a plugged fuel line from the tank. As a last resort I blew out the line with an air hose and the car has run fine since. In 2019 I took it out of storage for the first ride and the brake pedal went to the floor. In June 2020 I rebuilt the master cylinder and the car is back in action one again. On 6/7/2020 we took it for a ride and it turned 45,000 miles which I believe to be original.



Glamour Shot 6/7/2020

As a side note – Bucky the car's former owner worked at Sears in Augusta as well as St. Johnsbury Trucking Company. I have a 1980 International Harvester Cargostar from St. Johnsbury - check it out on the truck lineup page.



St. Johnsbury Notepad from the glove box of the 1951