



The Modifier

Street Rod & Modified Chapter
Pontiac – Oakland Club International

May/June 2011

Pontiacs at the West Coast Kustoms' Santa Maria, California Show



Artist Doug Dorr's '58 Chieftain. See more on page 4.



The Modifier

Newsletter of the Street Rod & Modified Chapter
Pontiac – Oakland Club International

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President's Message - Lou Calasibetta, Chapter President

A Springtime letter from the Prez

Now is the time that all of winter's blues are ending. The car season is starting into full gear all across the country. Hopefully Mother Nature has not put a hurt onto your projects. As I am writing this letter, I wonder how our fiends in the Midwest are doing. The land has really taken a beating from all sorts of turbulence. Here in the East, we have had a lot of rain and not much sunshine. Makes the time go much slower.

Are you all getting ready for the Kentucky POCl convention? There are so many last minute things to think about. What am I signing up for, what optional trips and meals do I attend?

Well, to make things even more interesting, we are going to have annual meeting at a breakfast place. Yes you heard it and I want you all to attend. We are going with the Custom Safari Chapter on Thursday morning to Motor City Grill. I think it will be a fun time. This does not interfere with the Points Judged cars on Friday. It will be different but after all, we are the "Dare to be Different Chapter." Let's have a large turnout. It only happens once a year so try to make it.

Remember, this is your chapter so enjoy the convention and have fun there. It's nice to see old friends at these events. I tried to mingle a little last year and I signed up about ten new members to our chapter in the process. Just think if everyone did that. Why, we would be a very large group of people.

To me, it seems that there are more and more modified cars around. It's just a self expression on the individuals and their tastes. Not everyone likes chocolate ice cream. That is why there are so many flavors.

Remember to sign the book in the lobby that you are a current member of our chapter. This is an important point to show that our members care and it helps our chapter.

Well, that is it for now. The next time you will hear from me is in Kentucky at the show. Until then, keep 'em lowered and louvered! See you then.

Lou Calasibetta

Editorial – Pontiacs Coming Out of the Woodwork - Alan Mayes

As most of you know, in my day job with *O' Skool Rodz* and *Car Kulture DeLuxe*, I go to lots of car shows – *lots* of car shows. Maybe I'm seeing this because of wishful thinking and just because of my long fondness of, and association with, Pontiacs over the years, but I believe there are more modified Pontiacs showing up at car shows these days. As the photos in this issue from the West Coast Kustoms show in California will illustrate, there are some really cool Pontiacs on the road.

I'm an analyzer by nature, always wondering about the motivation behind trends I observe. Of course, my conclusions are often just my opinion, but they help satisfy my curiosity nonetheless. I wonder if the recent perceived increase in Pontiac numbers might be due to the death of Pontiac Motor Division. Maybe the reality of the demise of GM's storied 83 year old brand brought Pontiacs to people's consciousness, causing them to give the Chiefs a second look instead of just settling for the same ol' Chevy or Ford for their next projects. Whatever the reason, I'm very happy to see it and I hope it continues.

It might be surprising to many of us, but most of these new Pontiac converts are unaware of the existence of POCl and what a great resource it is for owners of any Pontiacs (Oaklands or GMCs, too, of course). I've been evangelizing on behalf of the club and the chapter, passing out POCl membership applications and copies of *Smoke Signals* to Pontiac owners I meet at shows. You can get a supply of both by contacting Paul Bergstrom at the club office (number and address in *Smoke Signals*).

Pontiacs at West Coast Kustoms Cruisin' Nationals - Alan Mayes

This Memorial Day weekend marked the fourth year that the West Coast Kustoms Cruisin' Nationals has been held in Santa Maria, California. This is the show that used to be in Paso Robles. This is one of my favorite shows anywhere. It's in a great location and has a wonderful variety of kustoms and hot rods, cool art, and some of my favorite people. If you've never been, make plans now to go. You'll be glad you did.



These six Pontiacs were all photographed in Friday night's cruise on Broadway, the main drag in Santa Maria. The city shuts down the street to regular traffic for over two hours and only registered show participants with their window tags in place are allowed on the street. Spectators line both sides as the cars cruise up and down Broadway. *Photos by Alan Mayes & Anna Marco*





Here are some more Pontiacs from The West Coast Kustoms' Cruisin' Nationals. This event is one of the most laid-back you'll ever encounter. Hot rod and kustom fans come from all over the US and beyond for the show.

Happening in Gary Minor's Shop

Gary Minor has a couple of cool cars working in his shop right now. We'll show you the 1961 Catalina mild custom in this issue and the 1962 Grand Prix next time.



These first photos show what kind of rust issues Gary was dealing with on the '61 Catalina and I (Alan) can certainly identify! The rear wheelwells are the typical spots for rust on these cars. Cut and replace is the only way to fix it.



There were some issues to deal with in the front, too, as shown left above. The shots below and above right show a different picture altogether after the rust repair has been completed and a fresh coat of primer applied. Now she's looking pretty again!



POCI Convention - Street Rod & Modified Chapter Breakfast Cruise and Chapter Meeting

The Street Rod & Modified Chapter will enjoy a joint Breakfast Cruise with the Custom Safari Chapter at the convention in Bowling Green on Thursday morning, July 7. We will leave the Holiday Inn at 9:00 AM and cruise to the Motor City Grill for breakfast (they have the best fresh sausage you'll ever eat). Following breakfast, we'll have our annual chapter meeting at the Motor City Grill or nearby.

This is a great opportunity to show off our cars and to get other modified Pontiac, GMC, and Oakland owners involved in our chapter, joining us in doing what we do best – driving our cars and feeding our faces.

Bring along a friend or three!

Street Rod & Modified Chapter Information Sheet

Tell us about yourself and your cars

Please complete the following information and return it along with pictures of your car(s).
Send to Alan Mayes, 219 Lakewood Drive, Tullahoma, TN 37388 or e-mail to: alanmayes@lighttube.net

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ OCCUPATION _____

CAR MAKE _____ MODEL _____ YEAR _____ BODY STYLE _____

ENGINE _____ ENGINE MODIFICATIONS _____

TRANSMISSION _____ REAR END _____ CARB/INDUCTION _____

EXHAUST _____ INTERIOR _____ CHROME _____

COLOR _____ TYPE OF PAINT _____ BRAND OF PAINT _____

BODY MODIFICATIONS _____

CHASSIS MODIFICATIONS _____

TIRES _____ WHEELS _____

DESCRIBE THE WORK DONE AND FUTURE PLANS FOR THE CAR _____

TROPHYS AND AWARDS _____

OTHER HOBBY CARS OWNED _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – POCI Street Rod/Modified Chapter

This chapter is for those interested in Modified Pontiac, Oakland & GMC vehicles.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____ POCI Membership # _____

E-Mail Address _____

Pontiacs/Oaklands/GMCs owned & Modifications: _____

PLEASE SEND A STORY AND PHOTOS OF YOUR VEHICLE FOR *THE MODIFIER* AND FOR THE CLUB SCRAPBOOK TO BE DISPLAYED AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.

You must be a member in good standing of POCI to be eligible for chapter membership. IF YOU ARE NOT A POCI MEMBER, YOU MUST JOIN POCI FIRST. POCI dues are \$35.00 per year for the U.S., \$37.00 in Canada, \$46.00 elsewhere. Associate members are \$2.00 extra each. Street Rod & Modified Chapter dues are \$15.00 per year (June 1 through May 31), pro-rated for new members who join after January 1 to \$8.00 for the remainder of the year. Chapter dues include bi-monthly issues of *The Modifier* newsletter. Please return this form and a check payable to the Street Rod & Modified Chapter to:

Steve Cook, 16565 Lancaster Est. Dr., Grove, MO 63040

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IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS "MODIFIER" BY MAIL AND WOULD RATHER RECEIVE IT BY E-MAIL, LET US KNOW