



The Modifier

Street Rod & Modified Chapter
Pontiac – Oakland Club International

Sept./Oct. 2010

Ol' Marais River Run Car Show

Ottawa, Kansas



Pontiacs and GMCs invade the sleepy heartland – see 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

Our chapter has grown and made a wonderful showing in West Virginia. I really want to thank all of you for your chapter support. It makes my job a little easier to see some progress with the Modifieds! Hopefully, we will have the same experience in 2011 at the next convention.

Now for some chapter updates. Our hard working treasurer, Charlie Huntington, has resigned from his position. He has some business obligations that are now keeping him too busy to do the extra work that he knows the treasurer's job requires. His business has to come first. I agree with him; if he cannot put one hundred percent of his effort into the job, then it is best for him to step down and let us appoint someone who can devote more time to the job. I want to thank Charlie for all of his years of hard work and dedication to our chapter. Great job! Steve Cook has kindly

volunteered to step in and take over the position for us and there will be a smooth transition. Thanks, Steve, for the interest in our club.

Fall is upon us and has just come too fast. Now is the time to start thinking of next year. What are you guys doing to make your cars just a little better? Is it rebuild time, new wheels, or some rechrome? The possibilities are just endless. Hope the free time that you spend on your cars will be worth the extra effort.

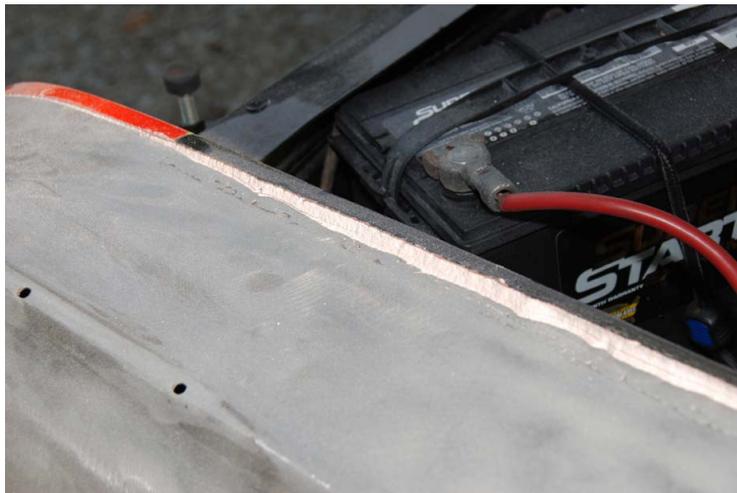
Well, that is it for now. The Garden State is just busting out with beautiful fall colors now. It's a color dream come true. Enjoy the pumpkins and turkeys that are just around the bend. We'll be chatting soon.

Sincerely,
Lou Calasibetta
President

Editorial – Gettin' excited about Bowling Green! - Alan Mayes

Plans are getting locked in for the 2011 POCI National Convention in Bowling Green and it's going to be a doozy! Be sure to watch future issues of *Smoke Signals* for updates. I think you're going to like what you see. I'll give you a sneak preview: 2011 is the 50th Anniversary of the 1961 Pontiacs, so we'll celebrate that with special recognition. And, it's also the 50th Anniversary of the 1961 Tempest being named *Motor Trend's* Car of the Year. This was at a time when that award actually signified something besides the winning company's ad budget. (No charge for that little editorial comment.)

Work is progressing on the repair of my '61 Ventura's poor bodywork issues. The guys at Street Rods by Michael in Shelbyville, Tennessee, are doing it right, so the car will be as sound as when new by



the time they get finished. I plan to have it at Bowling Green for the convention, too.

This picture shows a hint of what we're dealing with. The tops of the fenders had been repaired to fix the common rust issues, but instead of doing the proper metalwork, a previous shop had covered the tops of the fenders with Bondo 3/8" thick to bring them up to the hood level. There's no excuse for that kind of work. Beware, pretty paint can hide a multitude of sins.

24th Annual Ol' Marais River Run Car Show - by Larry Crider

For years I've heard about this car show in Ottawa, Kansas. Everyone said it was much like the Street Machine Nationals which I attend every year in Springfield, Missouri, except the fact they give out better door prizes, better trophies and best of all, it takes place inside this college town with a small town atmosphere. With the cancellations or moving of the Street Machine Nationals to another town, I finally got my chance to attend. Take it from me, if anyone is interested in going next year, you better try and get a hotel room now. They book up a year in advance as there are not many in this town.

The show is open to anything 1972 and older. I went up on Thursday just to get a feel for the town. Several eating places were within walking distance from where I stayed and weather cooperated so I could take advantage of the situation. The pre-registration tent was in the park area; this worked out great as plenty of food vendors and swap vendors had already made camp. There were 50/50 pots each day, the largest on Saturday totaling over \$2400. On both Saturday and Sunday, door prizes included such items as batteries, transmissions and complete engines!



The show is put on by the Over The Road Gang Inc., based in Ottawa and the actual show is held in Forest Park. One major rule to the show: everyone must park on the grass area. Another neat deal for us early risers, they did not allow people to save their spots with tents or chairs.



After the Saturday door prizes and 50/50 pot is handed out at 5:00 PM they start lining the cars up inside the park. At 6:00, there is a cruise uptown, where they have blocked off Main Street and thousands of people have gathered. They circle down Main and back to the park up until 10:00. You better have a lot of gas and not over heat, as it is bumper to bumper.

Sunday was much more laid back. Most people had headed home, giving us a chance to park at the other end of the park and chat with different people for the day. I was happy to see the Woody come through again, with another Best of Show award. Besides a neat plaque they also gave each person some money and a watch with the show logo on the face.



All weekend I was very excited to see many Pontiacs and especially a lot of GMC trucks. The KC Arrowhead Chapter of POCI was there in full force on Saturday with a club display. Darla and I walked each day and made sure we handed out POCI convention flyers to everyone.

Just remember, if you're interested in going next year, the show will be held Sept 17 & 18, 2011. Book your motel now!

Roger McLain's '53 Kustom Project

Following are a letter and accompanying photos we received from Roger McLain, telling us about his '53 Catalina kustom.



Hi. I'm a new member from north TX. I have a 1953 Catalina two door hardtop. It is an Arizona car that I started 32 years ago but had to sell as I had the first of six heart attacks. My doc said to sell. That was 20 years ago but God watched over my car and a friend found it sitting in a field where it had been for 17 years. After many calls, I was able to get her back, at a price that was three times what I sold it to him for.

Now about the old girl and why I wanted her back: Number one, I'm 70 years old and wanted a part of my past that I put so much into; two, she is sitting

on a '69 Chevelle frame that I stretched to the Poncho wheelbase. Starting with the engine, it's a 1976 Pontiac T/A 400 with a 400 Turbo and a 12 bolt rear. The motor has a carter AFB and electric pump pulling gas from a '78 T/A gas tank.



There are 112 louvers in the hood, '78 Cad taillights, '75 Chrysler Cordoba headlight rims, '82 Camaro instruments with billet face plate for them. Most unique for me is the 1975 Honda Prelude electric sunroof. It's taken me over a year to get rid of all the pack rat mess and rust they created. But the engine runs even after sitting in that field for 17 years; not too sure about the 400 Turbo.

Just thought I'd drop you a line with some of the info. I am in need of some interior trim that got lost over the last 20 years.

Thanks for your time I am looking forward to talking to some of your kustom members in the future.
Roger W. McLain

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 _____

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 _____

Classified Ads

Got something to sell? Need something for your project? This is the place to tell us about it. Send all the info, pictures, etc. to Alan Mayes at the address or e-mail on page 2. Let's move some merchandise!



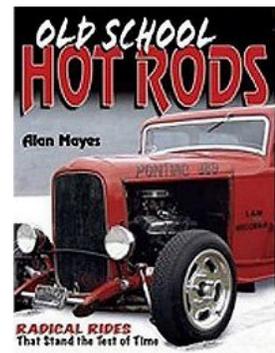
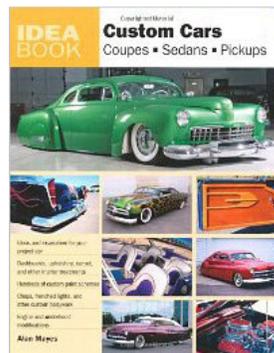
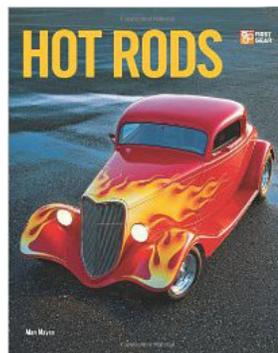
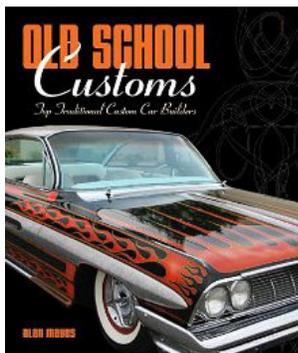
1955 Pontiac Safari for sale – Owned since 1971, driven less than 2k miles a year. It was stored outside for 5 years and up on blocks in my garage for 14 years. Present mileage is approximately 144,000. The car is almost all original with very little rust and only minor dings for its 55 years. The paint is almost through to the primer from polishing. Interior is fair, presently with no carpeting. I have accumulated a number of reproduction and NOS parts to be disposed of also. The December 2010, *Old Cars Report Price Guide* values a #3 1955 Custom Safari at \$26,100. Price is negotiable but close to guide value. Louie

E. Brown; 316-685-0540 home; 316-393-9362 cell; e-mail: L_EBrown@att.net



1934 Pontiac 5-Window Coupe for sale – Cream & maroon, chrome 502 TPI, 700R4, air, PS, PB, Heidt's front end, 9" rear, leather interior, electric doors & windows, 5000 original miles; \$65,000. Professionally appraised – too much to list! Doc Brenner; e-mail for more info docbrenner@verizon.net (Ft. Washington, PA)

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TELL SANTA! CALL 877-655-6423 OR ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.CKDELUXE.COM/MERCHANDISE/RODZ

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

The Modifier
c/o Alan Mayes
219 Lakewood Drive
Tullahoma, TN 37388

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