

PontiAction

PONTIAC HISTORY

PONTIAC HISTORY CONTINUES

For an extended period of time—prewar through the early 1950s—the Pontiac was a quiet, solid car, but not especially powerful. It came with a flathead (side-valve) straight eight. Straight 8s were slightly less expensive to produce than the increasingly popular V8s, but they were also heavier and longer. Additionally, the long crankshaft suffered from excessive flex, restricting straight 8s to a relatively low compression ratio with a modest redline. However, in this application, inexpensive (yet very quiet) flatheads were not a liability.

Pontiac 1946–1954

From 1946 to 1948, all Pontiac models were essentially 1942 models with minor changes. The Hydra-matic automatic transmission was introduced in 1948 and helped Pontiac sales grow even though their cars, Torpedoes and Streamliners, were quickly becoming out of date. The first all-new Pontiac models appeared in 1949. Newly redesigned, they sported such styling cues as lower body lines and rear fenders that were integrated in the rear-end styling of the car.

Along with new styling came a new model. Continuing the Native American theme of Pontiac, the Chieftain line was introduced to replace the Torpedo. These were built on the GM B-Body platform and featured sportier styling than the more conservative Streamliner.



1948 Silver Streak Convertible



1949

In 1950, the Catalina pillarless hardtop coupe was introduced as a “halo” model, much like the Chevrolet BelAir of the same year. In 1952, Pontiac discontinued the Streamliner and replaced it with additional models in the Chieftain line built on the GM A-body platform. This single model line continued until 1954 when the Star Chief was added. The Star Chief was created by adding an 11-inch (280 mm) extension to the A-body platform creating a 124-inch (3,100 mm) wheelbase. The 1953 models were the first to have one-piece windshields instead of the normal two-piece units. While the 1953 and 1954 models were heavily re-worked versions of the 1949-52 Chieftain models, they were engineered to accommodate the V-8 engine that would appear in the all-new 1955 models.

(Cont. Page 3)



1950 Hardtop Coupe

PREZ SEZ:

It's time!! Spring time and time to get out those cars that have been under cover and garaged for the winter. Get them out and revved up for another enjoyable season of cruising and car shows. Where we can, as a Club, meet and enjoy the camaraderie of each other's company. I want to thank Rhonda and Carol for putting together the Silver State Pontiac 2015 Events Calendar. And I'm sure Todd and Dave had some hand in it as well. Thanks again, guys. Be sure to keep these dates in mind and plan on attending as many events as you can.



Let's plan on parking together as a club on May 23 when the Classic "C" Club holds their Summer Salute Show at Rancho San Rafael. This is just around the corner, so plan on it. There are a lot of other dates to mark and they are noted elsewhere in this newsletter.



PONTIAC OFFICERS

President	Dale Lowery	775-745-8072	dlowery@ddplumbing.com
Vice President	Mike Nowicki	775-626-6407	msjnowicki@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Terri Schuff	775-747-2316	dandt.schuff@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jim LeBar	775-825-4648	jlebar@sbcglobal.net
Activities	Rhonda Kelly	775-331-5377	lironnie@charter.net
Newsletter	Jacque Lowery	775-771-7390	nevadabird@charter.net
Web Master	Hugo Tafel	775-217-4317	hugotafel@yahoo.com
Membership	Cindy Rentsch	775-849-3274	rentschd@intercomm.com
	Dwala Mandas	775-323-3211	dwalag@sbcglobal.net

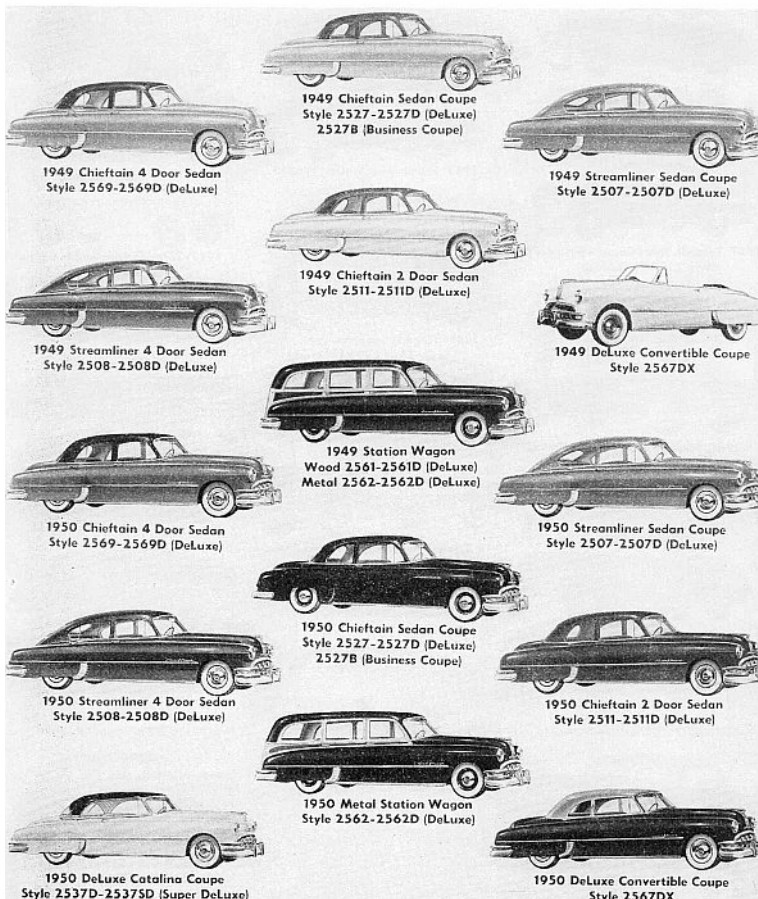
EDITOR'S CORNER

PontiAction is the official newsletter of the Silver State Chapter of the POCI. We need members to submit articles, jokes and life experience stories. New members, we would like to hear your car stories. All articles are appreciated. Let me hear from you. **LET'S TALK PONTIAC**. Submissions are due on the **FIRST** day of the month. Submissions received after that will be in the next newsletter. Submit to: nevadabird@charter.net **OR** **MAIL TO:** Jacque Lowery, 12520 Westridge Dr., Reno, NV 89511



PONTIACS 1946-1954

PONTIAC — Body Style Identification —



1954 Star Chief

Pontiac 1955–1960

Completely new bodies and chassis were introduced for 1955. A new 173-horsepower overhead valve V-8 engine was introduced. Sales increased. With the introduction of this V-8, the six-cylinder engines were discontinued; a six-cylinder engine would not return to the full-size Pontiac line until the GM corporate downsizing of 1977.

In 1956, when 42-year-old Semon “Bunkie” Knudsen became general manager of Pontiac, with the aid of his new heads of engineering, E.M. Estes and John DeLorean, he immediately began reworking the brand’s image.



One of the first steps involved the removal of the famous trademark “silver streaks” from the hood and deck lid of the 1957 models just weeks before the ’57s were introduced. Another step was introducing the first Bonneville—a limited-edition Star Chief convertible that showcased Pontiac’s first fuel-injected engine. Some 630 Bonneville were built for 1957, each with a retail price of nearly \$5800.



1957 Bonneville

While new car buyers could buy a Cadillac for that price, the Bonneville raised new interest in what Pontiac now called “America’s No. 1 Road Car.”



1959 Bonneville Vista 4-door

With the 1959 model year, Pontiac came out with its “Arrowhead” emblem, with the star design in the middle. The “Arrowhead” design ran all the way up the hood from between the split grille, and on Star Chief Models, had 8 chrome stars from the emblem design bolted to both sides of the vehicle as chrome trim. Knudsen saw to it that the car received a completely reworked chassis, body and interior styling. Quad headlamps, and a longer, lower body were some of the styling changes.

The Chieftain line was renamed Catalina; Star Chief was downgraded to replace the discontinued Super Chief series and for the first time did not have a two door hard top, only a two door sedan along with a four door hard top and four door sedan. In addition there was no Star Chief wagon. The Bonneville was now the top of the line, coming in

three body styles of two door hard top, four door vista and four door wagon. Catalina models included a two door hard top, two door sedan, four door sedan, four door hard top vista and wagon. Bonneville and Star Chief were built on a 124” wheelbase with the exception of the Bonneville wagon. All Catalina models and Bonneville wagon were built on 122” wheelbase. Catalina was also seven inches shorter than Bonneville and Star Chief and weighed one hundred to two hundred pounds less than it’s long wheelbase counterparts.

All 1959 Pontiac engines were equipped with a 389 cubic inch engine with horsepower ratings from 215Hp economy engine to a conservative rated 345 hp Tri-Power carbureted engine. All automatics were four speed Super-Hydra-Matic’s. A special note here is that Oldsmobile used this same transmission and called it Jetaway HydraMatic and Cadillac also used this transmission and called it 315 or P 315 Hydramatic. A three speed column mounted stick shift was standard on all Pontiacs. This coincided with major body styling changes across all models that introduced increased glass area, twin V-shaped fins and lower hood profiles. Because of these changes, [Motor Trend](#) magazine picked the entire Pontiac line as 1959 Car of the Year. The ’59s have a five-inch (127 mm) wider track because Knudsen noticed the new, wider bodies looked awkward on the carried-over 1958 frames. The new “Wide-Track” Pontiacs not only had improved styling, but also handled better—a bonus that tied into Pontiac’s resurgence in the marketplace.

The 1960 models saw a complete re-skinning with the exception of the body’s canopies which remained identical to the 59’s, but removed the tail fins and the distinctive split grille (which Ford copied on the final Edsel models for 1960).

The 1960 models standard engine all had a Horsepower gain of 3 hp due to a compression bump of .25 to one over the 59 engine. The front track was now widened to the rear track at 64”. Ventura was introduced, a more luxurious hardtop coupe and the Vista 4-door hardtop now being built on the shorter 122-inch (3,100 mm) wheelbase platform, with it falling between the Catalina and Star Chief models. The Ventura featured the luxury features of the Bonneville in the shorter, lighter Catalina body.

(To be continued)



1960 Ventura

April Fools' Day is celebrated every year on the first day of April. While many people partake in and enjoy this holiday, few people know about the history and origins of this cheerful day. Here are some interesting facts that will increase your knowledge about the history and modern hoaxes of April Fools' Day.

1. Did you know that April Fools' Day can also be called All Fools' Day?
2. Even though the exact origins of April Fools' Day are unknown, some historians think its roots can be traced all the way back to a Roman festival called Hilaria. This festival was celebrated by the Romans in late March and involved people dressing up in disguises.
3. Another theory about the precursor to April Fools' Day is that it is tied to the March equinox. The March equinox is the first day of spring for the northern hemisphere and is a time when Mother Nature can fool people with changing and unpredictable weather.
4. Some historians believe April Fools' Day started in 1582, when France switched from the Julian to Gregorian calendar. This calendar switch moved the start of the New Year to January 1st, instead of being around the end of March through April 1st. People who were slow to get the news about the calendar switch, and therefore continued to celebrate the New Year around the end of March, became the butt of jokes and had tricks played on them.
5. In modern times, some companies come up with elaborate hoaxes by displaying false and unbelievable claims as legitimate on newspapers, the radio, television stations, and the internet.
6. One of the most famous corporate April Fools' Day jokes was by Taco Bell in 1996. They duped people when they announced that they agreed to purchase Philadelphia's Liberty Bell and intended to rename it the Taco Liberty Bell.

SOME NEW MAXINES



EVENTS UPDATE

Hey SSPC Clubbers~ Spring time is finally here after a dry winter. Time to simply dust ourselves and our hotrods off, take our allergy meds, and put smiles on our faces! Just in time to enjoy the fun activities we have planned!

I have updated the events calendar that I shared at the February and March meetings to reflect the adjustments that we, as a club, made to it. Please note that although there are still a few original hard copy schedules available, due to costs, I won't print the updated version. However, you can print them from our website or download them with this newsletter. You may also update your own hard copy if you picked up a schedule at one of our meetings. There are still a FEW left over that I'll bring with me to the upcoming meetings.

There are lots of great events on our 2015 calendar. Please note that the events high-lighted in red are "Official" Club events. Some of you made fabulous suggestions that are updated to the calendar but not listed as "official". Most of these are informal and only require participation! Easy-peasy!! So just DO IT! If any of you would like to spearhead at least one activity please let me know.

I currently have hard copies for the following events/shows: Classic Chevy's Summer Salute (Official club event), HAN 2015 Spring Fever Revival (free to all register HAN participants), HAN 2015 official entry forms, HAN Membership forms, and sign-up sheets for our annual Hot August Nights fundraisers - **Thursday night cruise in Sparks** and **Grand Sierra Parking/Traffic**. These are our only club fundraisers and help us fund club events. Please consider helping out at one of these! We are off to a great start with seven members signed up already for HAN's **Thursday night cruise in Sparks**. For your convenience, I will bring the sign-up sheets to the next few meetings. It's a fun opportunity to support YOUR club!

If anyone knows of a good venue that won't charge us for the parking lot party please let me know. We need your suggestions, expertise, and connections to make this happen!

The Christmas party is set for December 19 at Harrah's Automobile Museum. It's not too early to be thinking about this. The cost is \$28 per person for dinner, and includes access to all the museum exhibits which we will have EXCLUSIVE to our club! Admission is typically \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors, so this is quite a bonus for us to have this awesome opportunity for this holiday season.

Please see calendars for dates and times of events. Let's have some fun and PARTICIPATE!!!!!!

~Rhonda

SILVER STATE PONTIAC CLUB 2015 EVENTS CALENDAR & OTHER EVENTS

Events highlighted in Red are "Official Club" events

APRIL 4 NOON (SATURDAY) EASTER EGG BINGO POKER CRUISE

APRIL 12 CLASSIC CHEVY SPRING SWAP MEET, RENO A&W 6AM-3PM

APRIL 16 7:00PM (THURSDAY) MONTHLY CLUB MEETING @ TBA

APRIL 18-20 25TH ANNUAL KOOL APRIL NIGHTS (\$20 ENTRY)

MAY 6 6:00 pm (WEDNESDAY) RENO A&W CRUISE NIGHT

MAY 6-SEPTEMBER 30 WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISES AT RENO A&W

MAY 9 BIG MAMA'S CAR SHOW, LAMPE PARK GARDNERVILLE 8AM-3PM

MAY 15-OCTOBER 9 – HEAVENLY VILLAGE GONDOLA, S. LAKE FRIDAY NIGHT CRUISES, 5- 8PM

EVENTS CALENDAR CONTINUED

MAY 21 7:00PM (THURSDAY) MONTHLY CLUB MEETING @TBA

MAY 23 (SATURDAY) SUMMER SALUTE SHOW BY CLASSIC CHEVYS - INVASION OF THE PONTIACS!

MAY 16 (SATURDAY) DEER IN THE HEADLIGHTS, BATTLE BORN MOPAR S N' S, RENO A&W 9AM-3PM

MAY 29-30 (FRI-SAT) 10am-7:00pm, HAN SPRING FEVER REVIVAL- SILVER LEGACY (Reg fee waived for HAN cars)

MAY 30-31 LOVELOCK STREET FEVER SHOW N' SHINE

MAY 30-AUGUST 30 FRIDAY NIGHT CRUISES AT SUMMIT RACING

MAY 31 COPS AND BURGERS SHOW- DOWNTOWN SPARKS 11AM-4PM

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS –CRUISE-INS AT SAVEMART

June 10 THE RIVER CRUISE NIGHT @ HOBES'S CASINO

JUNE 13-15 OCTANE FEST, FALLON, NEVADA

JUNE 12-14 WEST WENDOVER CLASSIC CRUISE-IN CAR SHOW

June 16--September 8 (Tuesday Nights) Blues @ The Village at Squaw Valley

JUNE 17 7:00PM (WED) OR JUNE 18 (THURSDAY) MONTHLY CLUB MEETING @A&W

JUNE 18- THE RIVER CRUISE NIGHT AT SUMMIT RACING

JUNE 20 BONANZA CASINO SNS, 10AM-4PM

JULY 16 5:30PM (THURSDAY) HAN KICKOFF BBQ WITH MEETING - @ TBA

JULY 19 WOUNDED WARRIOR Sns AT SUMMIT RACING

JULY 25 SHRINER'S SHOW at RENO A&W, 3:00-8:00PM

JULY 24-26 WELLS FUN RUN CAR SHOW AND CRUISE

JULY 24-26 WINNEMUCCA FIFTIES FEVER CAR SHOW

JULY 31-AUGUST 1 HOT AUGUST NIGHTS- SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

AUGUST 4-9 HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

AUGUST 4 PONTIACS ON THE GRASS @ A&W

AUGUST 5 ALL PONTIAC CRUISE

ALL WEEK Grand Sierra Parking/Traffic Detail- \$\$\$\$ for club!

AUGUST 6 (Thursday) DOWNTOWN SPARKS CRUISE – raise \$\$\$ for our club!!!!

AUGUST 14-15 CARLIN SHO N' SHINE

AUGUST 20 7:00PM (THURSDAY) MONTHLY CLUB MEETING @ TBA

AUGUST 21-22 BATTLE MOUNTAIN BURNER CAR SHOW N' SHINE

AUGUST 29-SEPT 1 OBSOLETE IRON'S LAST BASH CAR SHOW @ LAZY 5 PARK IN SPARKS

SEPTEMBER 4-5 ELKO CLASSIC CAR SHOW

SEPT. 6 ALZHEIMER'S BENEFIT SNS @ SUMMIT RACING – DONATION ONLY \$20 REQUEST

SEPT 9-12 RENO AIR RACES

SEPT 11-13 RENO BALLOON RACES

SEPTEMBER 17 7:00PM MONTHLY MEETING @ TBA

SEPT 23-27 – STREET VIBRATIONS

SEPT 18 (TENTATIVE) - "PARKING LOT PARTY" – CELEBRATING FALL BEGINNINGS! (DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH WOLFPACK SCHEDULE- Verified!)

SEPT 20 - CLASSIC CHEVY'S FALL SWAP MEET, RENO A&W 6AM-3PM

OCTOBER 3 – GUNSLINGER CRUISE SNS HOSTED BY FERNLEY KLASSIC CRUISERS

DECEMBER 19 - SATURDAY , SSPC CHRISTMAS PARTY, 6:00-10:00PM @ HARRAH'S AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLUB EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Regular Club Meeting	April 16	Dennys
Reno A&W Cruise Night	May 6	Reno A&W

A LITTLE THREE YEAR OLD BOY IS SITTING ON THE TOILET. HIS MOTHER THINKS HE HAS BEEN IN THERE TOO LONG, SO SHE GOES IN TO SEE WHAT'S UP. THE LITTLE BOY IS SITTING ON THE TOILET READING A BOOK. BUT ABOUT EVERY 15 SECONDS OR SO, HE PUTS THE BOOK DOWN, GRIPS ONTO THE TOILET SEAT WITH HIS LEFT HAND AND HITS HIMSELF ON TOP OF HIS HEAD WITH HIS RIGHT HAND.

HIS MOTHER SAYS: "BILLY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU'VE BEEN IN HERE FOR A WHILE."

BILLY SAYS: "I'M FINE, MOMMY. I JUST HAVEN'T GONE POTTY YET."

MOTHER SAYS: "OK, YOU CAN STAY HERE A FEW MORE MINUTES, BUT, BILLY, WHY ARE YOU HITTING YOURSELF ON THE HEAD?"

BILLY SAYS: "WORKS FOR KETCHUP."

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

Diane Horning	11th
Carol Smith	18th
Michael Burmer	20th
Michael Miller	20th
Carl Steinberg	23rd



APRIL

Karen Huggins	2nd
Symantha Miller	14th
Mike Nowicki	29th

ANNIVERSARIES



MARCH

Russ & Diane Horning	43 yrs
----------------------	--------

APRIL

Dave & Sharon Lynch	47 yrs
Todd & Rhonda Kelly	25 yrs
Joe & Michelle Schenck	20 yrs
David & Teri Schuff	38 yrs
Jim LeBar/Cecelia Alcalá	15 yrs

ADVERTISEMENTS

*** The Affordable Care Act ***



nevada
health link

YOU have questions, WE have answers!

Senior **INSURANCE**
AGENCY

933 Pyramid Way • Sparks, NV 89431 • (775) 829-9600
SeniorInsuranceAgency.com

Health Plans For ALL AGES... Since 1986!

GOGO'S RANDOM STUFF
COLLECTIBLES

MEMORABILIA
GOGOSRANDOMSTUFF.COM

ANTIQUES

775*428*6500

Hugo Tafel

5070 Reno Hwy Fallon NV 89406 775-217-4317
640 E Street Hawthorne NV 89415 hugotafel@yahoo.com



Knowledge and Integrity



4 Hr Recorded Info By Phone or Fax
888-865-5167 ext. 2091

KELLER WILLIAMS
GROUP ONE
REAL ESTATE

CINDY RENTSCH
823-6261
FOR SALE

Cindy Rentsch

Exact Enhancements
Permanent Cosmetics



Rhonda Kelly
Micropigmentation Specialist
(775) 338-3997
www.exactenhancements.com

at the Essenza Salon • 5255 Vista Blvd.
Suite 1 • Sparks, NV 89436

NEED TO ADVERTISE? HERE'S HOW.....

Send an E-mail to: nevadabird@charter.net or use the U.S. Postal Service to:
Jacque Lowery, 12520 Westridge Drive, Reno, NV 89511

Advertising Rates:
Full Page: \$30 per issue
Half Page: \$15 per issue
Business Cards: \$5 per issue

You can send a photo, full description of item, price and contact information and we'll get it in the next issue of **PontiAction**.
Club members can advertise cars & parts free!
Club members advertising a business pay the rate.

PontiAction

**P.O. Box 4521
Sparks, NV 89432**

**SILVER STATE
PONTIACS**



**CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:
www.silverstatepontiacs.com**

NEXT MEETING

**APRIL 16 7:00 PM
DENNY'S**