



THE HOOD SCOOP

NOVEMBER 2011

Gateway GTO
Association



GTO of the Month

My GTO

By Mike Ewens



My interests in GTO's began on Easter Sunday 2005 when my grandpa brought home a 1966 GTO from Wisconsin. I was 18 years old and totally into cars. He previously owned a 1931 Ford Model A pick up truck which had been made into a hotrod. It paled in comparison to this GTO. It was finally what I wanted him to get a "MUSCLE CAR"!

I started attending Lewis and Clark Tech School in my junior year of high school. I took classes in auto mechanics, welding and auto body, I couldn't get enough knowledge to satisfy my infatuation with cars. Because of my interests in cars I was always in the garage with my grandpa fixing and modifying anything we could.

My first car was a 1991 Ford Escort black with one blue front fender and a 1992 engine. It was a "BEAST". Unlike my grandpa I did not share his enthusiasm with Ford and promptly blew out the transmission. The Escort was



An Official Chapter of the GTO Association of America

FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS

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traded in towards a new truck for my dad and I became the proud owner of a 1995 Dodge Ram pickup truck with \$3000 worth of hail damage. It was my baby and first project. I did numerous repairs and modification witch included fixing all the hail damage, lowering the truck, installing a custom flamed headliner and untold amounts of audio work all with a helping hand from my grandpa.

In the summer of 2007 I purchased my first brand new vehicle. It was a 2007 Dodge Ram (my first V8). I didn't waste anytime

adding my own personal touches to it. Which included new wheels and tires, lowering, a shaved tailgate and as many performance parts as I could afford. 4.56 gears, intake and tune were just a few of the many things I improved. This truck was my pride and joy. In 2008 I attended my first official GTO Club outing it was the First Annual Drag Day. This was the first time down the track for my grandpa and I. Not only was it his life long dream it was mine as well. We even got to race against each other. Although by no means were we the fastest there that day in our eyes we had the most fun. I even got my mom to take my truck down the track but little did I know she was a gear head from way back. After the drag races grandpa and I had more work to do on his car



because it was never up to his standards.

In March of 2009 after a long struggle my grandpa passed away. This was the most difficult time of my life. Grandma almost immediately started talking about selling the GTO, which upset the whole family. We couldn't stand the thought of not having the GTO in the family or being a part of the GTO club because it meant so much to him. I began my search for a newer GTO since it would become my daily driver. It took me 2 weeks to find the only red 06 within 100 miles. On April 15th 2009 I purchased a 2006 GTO in arrest me red (torrid). Not long after that I became a member of the Gateway GTO Club.

The very same week I purchased the car I had it in the shop getting the windows tinted. Since then I have only done mods within my budget. The first upgrades I did on the car was the rear springs and the exhaust but then their was something I had to get out of the way before further modifications would be allowed. On November 24th 2009 while sitting in the driveway at my house in my beloved GTO I asked Kathleen to marry me. She of course said yes. I think the car had something to do with her answer. In the months since I have installed a cold air intake, upgraded pads and rotors all

around and I finally got my Dyno Tune done. After seeing the satisfying results I still have many modifications and big plans for this car. But I have two more minor details to take care of first one of which becoming a new homeowner and the second getting married. Since joining the Gateway GTO Club my mom has also become a member driving my grandpas 1966 GTO. We thoroughly enjoy spending time at club events with our family and other members. We look forward to many more years with the club and that grandma forgets about selling the 66.



Editorial Note: This is a reprint of the article that Mike wrote in April 2010. As most you know, Mike and Kathleen were married earlier this year and the 66 is still in the family. - Chris



The Presidents Scoop

By Mark Melrose

The car season tends to follow the outdoor temperatures – winding down lower and lower as we get closer to the end of the calendar. But while the season is winding down I see no such trend in the Club’s level of activities. The second half of October brought us to Benton, IL for the annual *Ray Brunkhorst Memorial Drag Day*, to Springfield, IL for a visit to the annual *Dick Levy* “hanger-day” collection of motorcycles and rare automobiles and to Florissant, MO in response to the Mayweathers’ invitation to the Olivet Missionary Baptist Church *Harvest Fest and Car Show* and then on to St. Peters, MO that same evening to Earl and Barb Lewis’ huge garage/workshop for the *Fabulous Fall Movie Nite* including a chili & fixins dinner followed by a private screening of *The World’s Fastest Indian*. Early November took us to Augusta, MO for the annual Club *Wine Cruise* to Montelle Winery – articles covering these events are in the following pages. While only a couple of events remain on this year’s calendar, they are among the most popular – December 10th is the annual *GTO Club Christmas Party* at the Webster Barn in Webster Groves, MO and January 15th will find us at Ravanellis’ Restaurant in Granite City, IL for our annual *Club Pizza Party* – see flyers in the following pages, I hope you can make it to these officially “off-season” events.

Special thanks to all the candidates in the pending 2012-13 Club Officer elections. I know I speak for all members when I extend gratitude for their willingness to serve the Club as an Officer. The fact that several positions are contested is testament to the vibrant nature of our membership. THANK YOU.

Please direct your attention to page 19 of this newsletter for the *New Age GTO Concours Project* flyer. While the new era (2004-2006) GTOs turnout in decent numbers for the Popular Vote competitions at the GTOAA National Meets, the new-era cars have yet to be included in the prestigious Concours Classes. In preparation for Concours eligibility (probably not before 2016) GTOAA has begun a project intended to benchmark the as-built configurations for each model year new-era GTO. With a comparatively large stable of new-era GTOs, the Gateway Club has been selected by GTOAA to begin the *New Age GTO Concours Project* by making a total of six new-era cars (two per model year – one automatic transmission and one manual) available for photographic documentation of their stock (as-built) configurations. These cars must be bone stock – no mods (other than replacement tires/batteries), no removed spoilers, no added emblems, pin striping, etc. The resulting Gateway GTO vehicle photographic documentation will be used to set the standards and confirm the as-built configurations for new-era cars when their Concours Classes are finally implemented. It’s an opportunity for your car to go down in Pontiac posterity. If your car meets the standards in the flyer and you are interested in participating, please contact Chris Winslow (636-939-2770 or chriswinslow@charter.net).

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions and hope to see you all at the Christmas Party.





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



Gateway GTO August Meeting Minutes November 2, 2011

The monthly Gateway GTO meeting was held at JJs at 1212 South Duschene in St. Charles. Members began arriving by 6:00PM for dinner and conversation.

President Mark Melrose called the meeting to order at 7:03PM. Officers in attendance were Mark Melrose, Darrell May, Will Bowers, and Shauna Wollmershauser.

New Members: No new members attended the meeting.

Old Business:

EPC Car Show: Was held on October 18, 2011. Roughly 300 cars were there. Earl Lewis did not win his class this year.

Behlmann Cruise Night: 60 cars made it to the event. The weather cooperated. The turn out was impressive due to the fact that the Cardinals were playing a playoff game.

Ray Brunkhorst Memorial Drag Day: The weather was beautiful. We had 37 cars participate. The John and Tom grudge match did not work out so well. They both had mechanical issues. They will have to race again next year. Tom Oxler broke his rear end. John Taylor broke his clutch. Mike Ewens has an issue with his differential. Terry Schott broke his transmission.

Olivet MB Church October Car Show: 12 Gateway GTO Club cars were there. This is Joe and Bev Mayweather's church. The food was great! Terry Schott came home with the Deacon's Choice trophy. Joe thanked us all for making the event.

Fabulous Movie Night: Earl and Barb Lewis hosted this event. Earl played the "World's Fastest Indian." The food was excellent. Thank you Earl and Barb for hosting the event. Sandra Melrose also helped with the planning.

Fall Tail of the Dragon Run: Mike McNeil, John and Glenna Lally, and Shauna Wollmershauser made the trip to Maggie Valley, NC. The Tail of the Dragon is an eleven-mile stretch of US 129. It features 318 turns in those eleven miles. The trio had a blast! They plan on making the trip again next year.

Las Vegas: Jerry Novak attended a racing school recently, and send out an email detailing what to expect regarding on course driving and potential expenses. He suggested buying the ride along with a professional driver and the video that goes with it.

New Business:

Fall Wine Cruise: Meet at Francis Howell at 10:30AM for a 10:45AM departure. Club Sponsored.

Gateway GTO Club Christmas Party: The Hawkin House is the venue. The party is December 10, 2011. Mail your check to Will Bowers.

Gateway GTO Club Pizza Party: Is January 15, 2012 at Ravanelli's in Granite City, IL.

Nominations: Five nominations have been received so far. Ballots will go out once they are finalized. All nominees have accepted. Voting needs to be done soon. New Officers will be announced at the Christmas Party. Proposed changes have been made to the Constitution will be mailed out soon. Please review them, so we can vote on them.





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



Tech Issues:

Tom's car is back at Omer's being repaired.

New car owners with long tube headers should be prepared to either drop the power steering rack or disconnect the passenger side header if you are going to install a new starter.





Gateway GTO Tech Article



FUEL RAIL COVER MODIFICATION

By Chris Winslow

As many of you know, there have been a few of the new GTO's lost to engine fires. Many of us believe that the source of these fires is the failure of the fuel line that routes under the left hand fuel rail cover. On the 2004 GTO's specifically, and to a lesser extent the 2005 and 2006 cars, this line is a bit too long and tends to rattle against the fuel rail



cover. Since one end of this line is fixed to the firewall and the other to the fuel rail, this line is constantly rubbing against the edge of the fuel rail cover as the engine shifts left and right during normal driving. Obviously, more aggressive driving causes even more relative motion and consequently more rubbing.

Over time, the interaction between the fuel rail cover and the fuel line can result in a cut forming in the fuel line. This can eventually lead the fuel line to fail causing gas to spray all over the inside of the engine compartment. GM apparently recognized this problem because for the 2005 model year, they shortened the fuel line and changed the opening where the fuel line enters the fuel rail cover to make it considerably larger. These two things helped a bit, but I would still recommend that those of you with 2005 and 2006 cars check your fuel lines for damage.

So the question is, what can one do about this? Some people have actually just removed the fuel rail covers altogether. I am not a big fan of that look myself, so I did not go that route. The other mod I have seen is the ever popular shade tree mechanic trick of taking a short length of hose, splitting it down the middle, and securing it in place in the area where chaffing is a concern to act as the sacrificial layer. While this option will work, it leaves the end of the hose sticking out past the fuel rail cover, which is something that I was not prepared to live with.

In my case, when I first heard about this problem, I inspected my car and found that it had the condition. I immediately took the car to the Pontiac dealer to get the line replaced under warranty. The dealer I went to was surprisingly difficult to deal with on this issue and only reluctantly agreed to change the hose. Once I had the new hose installed, I needed to figure out a



Gateway GTO Tech Article



way to prevent the problem from occurring again.

After giving it some thought, I came up with a solution. It is basically a modified version of the split hose option. What I did was take a short section of hose and split it down the middle. Instead of installing it on the fuel line, however, I used silicone adhesive and glued it to the under side of the fuel rail cover. I was careful to position it such that the end of the hose is just shy of flush with the edge of the cover. The result is that there is no relative movement between the hose piece I installed on the fuel rail cover and the cover itself. Essentially I end up with rubber on rubber contact between the hose section and the fuel line.



The result can be seen in the photo below. When the cover is installed, the hose section glued onto the underside of the cover cannot be seen. This solution allows the hose to be fully protected, but in a way that is not visible once the cover is installed.





Gateway GTO Activities



Ray Brunkhorst Memorial Drag Day By Shauna Wollmershauser

The day started at FedEx Kinkos for some of us. It was a little brisk out, but spirits were high and we were all anxious to get to the track. We left the parking lot a little later than expected because a potential racer did not have long pants. Once he got back we were off. The trip to the track did not feel like it took ninety minutes to get there, but it did. We encountered a bit of construction traffic and lost Kerry and Will. It turns out that Kerry had a small issue and needed to stop to fix it. He and Will arrived at the track about thirty minutes after the initial caravan.

It didn't take long for cars to start making passes down the track. The most noticeable issue was that cars running street tires had trouble hooking. The best way to remedy that issue is for all of us to buy DOT slicks or drag radials. Of course doing that might result in more broken parts or some really good track times. With my luck, I'd have a trail of broken parts.

We had roughly 37 paid participants and every one of them wore a smile from ear to ear. Broken parts didn't even dampen the day. The weather couldn't have been any nicer, well the track temperatures could have been a tad warmer, but we made due. A Ranken student and an instructor came down to enjoy the day with the Gateway GTO Club. There were a few grudge match races that took place. I'm not sure but I think the Camaro beat up on the Mustang pretty bad all day.



We even had a few fast Mustangs join us. Yes, I did say fast Mustangs. They were all highly modified specifically for drag racing.



Gateway GTO Activities



Eric Ray made a few passes in his Pontiac Sunfire.



We had a Harley-Davidson make a few passes with a young rider.

It seems that we get a great mix of people and cars at this event every year. I hope to see it continue to grow and for Ray to continue to smile upon us when we have this event. Plan on a Saturday in October for the next one.





Gateway GTO Activities



OLIVET MB CHURCH CAR SHOW

By Joe and Bev Mayweather

The Olivet MB church located at 12200 New Halls Ferry Road in Florissant Missouri hosted an October Harvest Fest and Car Show, Saturday, October 29, 2011.

Joe and Beverly Mayweather who are church members, and Gateway GTO members, were active participants of the car show. Joe registered the cars, while his wife Beverly worked with the harvest fest.

There were approximately 65 cars that participated in the show. There were street rods, muscle cars and of course the Gateway GTO Club was well represented with at least 15 cars. Thanks to all the club members who were able to come out and join us.





Gateway GTO Activities



There was free food. The hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, sodas and water were served outside the church. Inside the church, the harvest food was served. The meal was centered around the vegetables that some of the church members grew in the church's garden located in back of the church. Of course Joe was one of the faithful gardeners. Members donated side dishes and desserts. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food.

Members, friends and car show participants fellowshiped together and a good time was had by all. A lot of church members commented that they had never seen such beautiful cars before.





Gateway GTO Activities



CRUISE TO MONTELLE WINERY

By Chris Winslow

The annual Gateway GTO winery cruise was held this year on November 6th. The event was blessed with excellent Missouri fall weather resulting in a turnout of 19 cars. The caravan left Francis Howell High School at 10:00 sharp and headed south on Highway 94. The fall



colors along this already scenic route were in full swing so it was a beautiful drive. In fact, if anything, the only problem with the event is that Montelle Winery is not far enough away, cutting the cruise part of the event too short for such a great day.

Once we arrived at the winery, we lined up the cars in the parking lot and headed into the winery to sample the various types of wine Montelle produces. The group recon-





Gateway GTO Activities



vened on the newly renovated covered deck area at the rear of the facility for lunch and conversation.



The winery cruise is traditionally the last major Gateway GTO event of the car season and this years great turnout, fall colors, and camaraderie made this the perfect event to wind down the cruising season.





Gateway GTO Activities



FABULOUS FALL MOVIE NITE

By Sandra Melrose

Just Like the *Cardinals!*

Everyone *pitched* in to make the October 29th, Fabulous Fall Movie Nite a *hit*. Earl and Barb Lewis hosted the evening in their enormous, *stadium-sized* (minor exaggeration) garage. Spotted in the *stands* were the Chapmans, Kiburzs, Bowers, Oxlers, Blattels, Schotts, Friedmans, Mays, Hedricks, Mortons and Melroses.

Nestled between the drill press and other tools on the workbench were several crockpots of chili brought by the *fans*. Debbie and Kerry Friedman *hit a double* with the steamer containing warmed tamales and OT Hodge's chili. A delicious taco soup was in the *line-up* along with the regular stand-by toppings of onions, cheese and oyster crackers. *Out of left field* a huge basket of cornbread appeared. And everyone's favorite, expertly grilled *Ballpark* Franks.

Bob and Chris Blattel were the technical advisors running the *plays* with their projector. You could say they *interfaced with the media*.

We munched on popcorn and cheered for Anthony Hopkins in the movie "The World's Fastest Indian". A story about an independent New Zealander and his struggles and adventures racing his motorcycle to a record breaking run at the Bonneville Salt Flats.

We needed *extra innings* to dine on yummy deserts like Derby pie, brownies, candy kiss cookie "acorns" and mini candy bars.

On this crisp autumn night many could be found warming themselves with *low, inside heat* from the fire pit.

All in all, the night proved to be a *Grand Slam!* And, by the way, how about those *Cardinals!*?

Official 2012 Gateway GTO Officer Ballot Form

The candidates below have been nominated as Officers for the 2012-13 term in accordance with the Club Constitution and By-Laws. Please print this page and vote for one candidate for each office. Only this form will be accepted and only if it is received by December 1, 2011.

President:

Mark Melrose

Vice-President (MO):

Kerry Friedman

or

Terry Schott

Vice-President (IL):

Darrell May

Treasurer:

Will Bowers

Secretary:

Shauna Wollmershauser

or

Brian O'Sullivan

GTOAA Chapter Rep:

Steve Hedrick

ONLY ONE BALLOT PER MEMBER PLEASE

Mail To: Will Bowers

1 Goshen Woods

Edwardsville, IL 62025

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow



GATEWAY GTO CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 10, 2011 7-11PM

Bring a "Rob Your Neighbor" Gift (\$20-\$30)

Webster Groves Barn
1155 South Rock Hill Road
Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

Buffet Meal, BYOB, \$15 per person, \$30 per couple

For Reservations send a check by November 18th to:

Will Bowers
#1 Goshen Woods
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Gateway GTO 2011 Christmas Party

~ ~ ~ Menu ~ ~ ~

Italian Roast Beef

Served in light gravy with Italian Crusty Buns

Sicilian Chicken

Breaded and grilled with olive oil, fresh lemon and garlic

Rigatoni Alfredo

Classic butter and Parmigiano cheese sauce

Rosemary Roasted Potatoes

Roasted with virgin olive oil, Rosemary and spices

Fresh Vegetable Medley

Fresh broccoli, cauliflower, carrots and zucchini in a butter sauce

Salad and Garlic Bread

Dessert

Homemade Cannoli



Gateway GTO Club

Pizza Party

Sunday, January 15, 2012 from 1-5 PM

Ravanelli's Restaurant

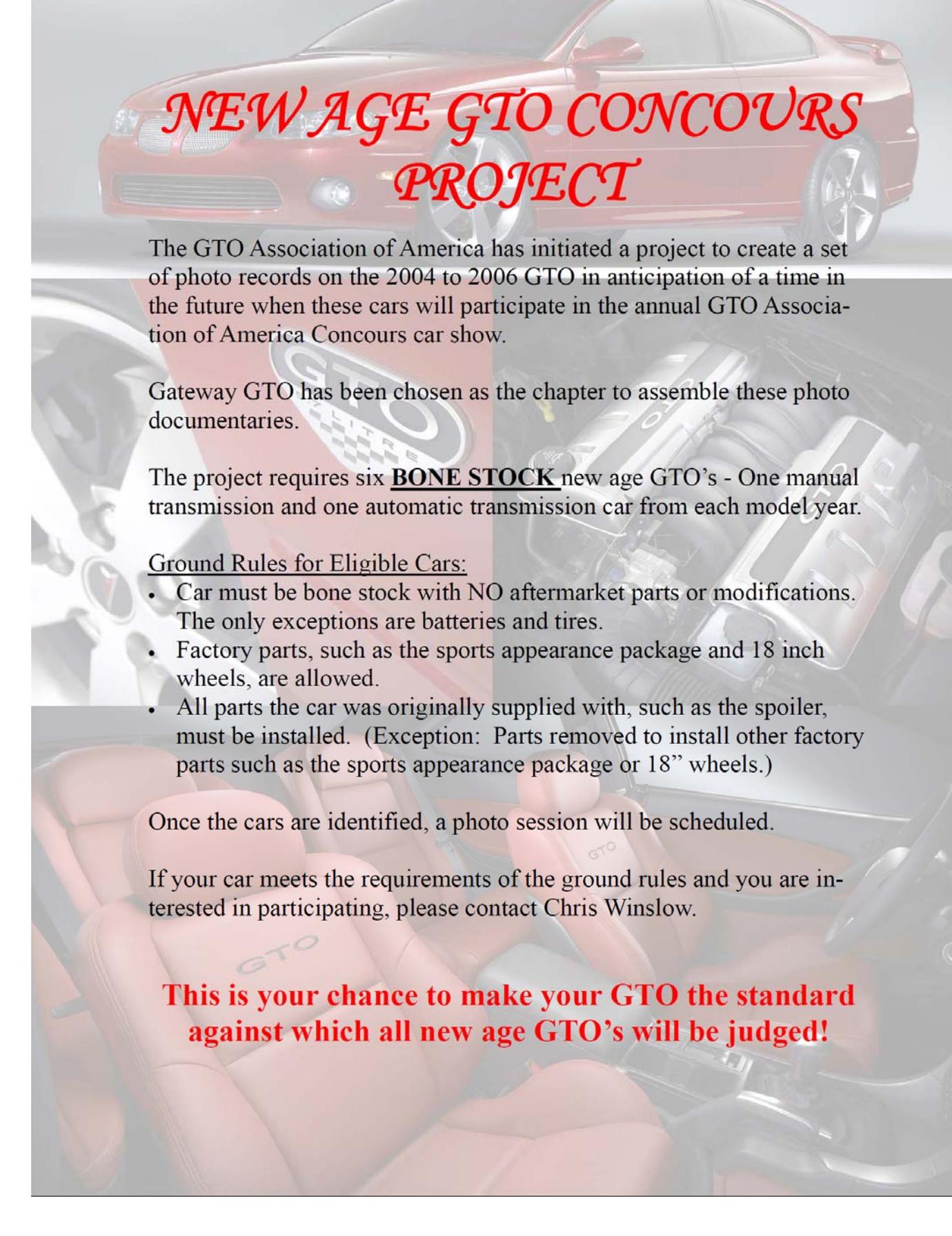
3 American Village
Granite City IL 62040

Off Highway 203 in Granite City
618-877-8000

[Click here of a Map](#)

Club furnishes the pizza – drinks, salads, etc. are members' responsibility





NEW AGE GTO CONCOURS PROJECT

The GTO Association of America has initiated a project to create a set of photo records on the 2004 to 2006 GTO in anticipation of a time in the future when these cars will participate in the annual GTO Association of America Concours car show.

Gateway GTO has been chosen as the chapter to assemble these photo documentaries.

The project requires six **BONE STOCK** new age GTO's - One manual transmission and one automatic transmission car from each model year.

Ground Rules for Eligible Cars:

- Car must be bone stock with NO aftermarket parts or modifications. The only exceptions are batteries and tires.
- Factory parts, such as the sports appearance package and 18 inch wheels, are allowed.
- All parts the car was originally supplied with, such as the spoiler, must be installed. (Exception: Parts removed to install other factory parts such as the sports appearance package or 18" wheels.)

Once the cars are identified, a photo session will be scheduled.

If your car meets the requirements of the ground rules and you are interested in participating, please contact Chris Winslow.

**This is your chance to make your GTO the standard
against which all new age GTO's will be judged!**

Gateway GTO Association Points Submission Form

Member Name _____

Month _____

Club Sponsored Events and Monthly Meetings

Event	With GTO (40 Points)	Without GTO (20 Points)

Total for Club Sponsored Events _____

Non Sponsored Events

Event	With GTO (10 Points)	Without GTO (5 Points)

Total for Non Sponsored Events _____

Other Activities

GTO Regional/National Event	With GTO (100 Points)	Without GTO (70 Points)

- GGTOA Event Worker/Helper (50 Points) _____
- Car Featured as GTO of the Month (50 Points) _____
- Write an Article for *Hood Scoop* (50 Points) _____
- Sign up a new GGTOA member (25 Points) _____
- GTOAA Member (200 points*) _____
- Have GTO featured in a National Pub (40 Points) _____

Total Points for Month

Submit completed form at GGTOA monthly meeting or to:
 S. Wollmershauser
 1948 A Sidney Street
 St. Louis, MO 63041

*Report on points form submitted month of GTOAA registration or renewal.

2011 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov 2 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 6 Club Wine Run to Montelle Winery. Meet at Francis Howell High School at 10:30(CLUB SPONSORED)
- Dec 10 Club Christmas Party at Hawken House in Webster Groves, MO, details to follow. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- Jan 15 Gateway GTO Pizza Party 1-5PM at Ravanelli's Restaurant, 3 American Village, Granite City, IL. Click [Here](#) for a map. (CLUB SPONSORED) **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A NEW LOCATION FOR THIS EVENT!!!!**

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds

**K&N Cold Air Intake Kit for 2006 GTO
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Contact: Tom Oxler**

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Advertising Guidelines

Classified ads up to 50 words are free to members; add 10 cents per word for any ad over 50 words. Payment is due upon submission. (members need to update ads at 3 month intervals or ads will be dropped). Classified ads up to 50 words for non-members are \$5.00 per issue.

Gateway GTO Club Information

The Gateway GTO Association was initially formed in the summer of 1984 by a group of seven. They all had a common interest in the Original Muscle Car, the Pontiac GTO. As a form of communication we publish a monthly newsletter called "The Hood Scoop". The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our members informed of all upcoming activities as well as providing interesting event coverage. The club meets every first Wednesday of the month at J. J.'s Restaurant, 1215 S. Duchesne Rd, St. Charles, Mo. 63301.

Membership dues are \$20.00 per year and all renewals are required to be paid by December 31st. You are allowed to have one associate member.

Club Sponsor



820 McDonnell Blvd.

Hazelwood Mo. 63042

www.behlmann.com

314-895-1600

1-800-892-8267



**As a Gateway GTO member please consider joining the
GTO Association of America**

**The Gateway GTO Association
is an official chapter of the
GTO Association of America
www.gtoaa.org**

**Visit us at
www.gatewaygto.org**

Gateway GTO Association Photo Album

If you have photos of past events or if you take pictures of future events that you think would be good for our Photo Album, please send them to the newsletter editor.

The Hood Scoop is published as an informative news bulletin to keep our members up to date on past, present, and future events.

Advertising rates are:

\$100 – Full page (Color or Black and White) ad in monthly *Hoodscoop* newsletter for 12 months, your logo on our Website Sponsor page, and a link to your website from our Related Website Link space.

\$50 – ½ page (Color or Black and White) ad in our monthly *Hoodscoop* newsletter for 12 months, your logo on our Website Sponsor page, and a link to your website from our Related Website Link space.

\$25 – Business Card (Color or Black and White) ad in our monthly *Hoodscoop* newsletter for 12 months, your logo on our Website Sponsor page, and a link to your website from our Related Website Link space.

1948 A Sidney Street
St. Louis, MO 63104

