



THE HOOD SCOOP

February 2017

Our '67 GTO

By Steve Hedrick

Gateway GTO
Association



Our 1967 GTO Sport Coupe was born April 1967 in Kansas City, MO. It was first sold in Rolla, MO. Many years later, the car ended up in the Hedrick family, along with a 1969 and 1970 GTO and a few others. Needless to say, the car was pushed to the back burner many times. After moving with us to several houses, we finally started working on the '67 after moving into our current home. This would be the first long body car we had done. The learning curve was huge. Along with an assembly manual, a few parts cars and an Ames catalog, we put the car together. With more than a few setbacks and the help of friends we got the car on the road 10 years after we brought it home, with a few changes to make it more driver friendly and to make it ours.

Since the car was finished, it has traveled all around the country, normally in style, in an enclosed trailer. Some people might not like this, but it always has a garage anywhere we go and it certainly makes the clean

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THE HOOD SCOOP

GTO of the Month

up a lot easier. Traveling in a GTO with kids, and all that they bring, is not fun. Been there, done that. Our GTO is packed full of memories with our kids. It has traveled to countless GTO Nationals, including Colorado, Ohio and Detroit. It has cruised Woodward Avenue with my dad and my son. It has been cruising around town with my son and grandsons. There is nothing like grabbing gears and that look from Tammy, over and over again. Our GTO is a time machine.

The pampered life our GTO lives today is certainly well deserved. You might ask why? Our GTO is certainly a great looking car, it will always be a great ride whether on Route 66, Woodward Avenue or just a short ride on a back road in Jefferson County. It gives us the feeling of being a part of something GREAT. It stirs passion and the joys of my teenage years of running with my friends and their GTO's. Oh, the days of being young and carefree in a fast car with a hot chick.

So today, some things have changed. I'm not so young and care-free, but the car and the hot girl by my side still stirs my passion. Our GTO has certainly been a car of joy for our grandkids. They love riding in it and going to car shows and they are, at times, just as excited as I am about our GTO. It can be said that our '67 is a part of our family. GTO's have always been and will continue to be "The Great One" for the Hedrick family, young and old.





Presidents Scoop

The Presidents Scoop

By Kerry Friedman

Our major endeavor for this year is the GTOAA National Convention that we The Gateway GTO Chapter, are sponsoring in Springfield, IL. Our friends from the Chicago area, The Windy City Goats, and some local mid-Illinois folks from Heart of Illinois Chapter, will be assisting with various cruises and chores. Thanks to all of you who have spent immeasurable hours working to make this a great event.

The Convention is now only 4 months away. We have more speakers than we have spots, there are enough different activities to keep everyone busy. The entertainment is booked. All that we need now is commitment from the Gateway Chapter when you will be there and when you can work. Although the Convention events start on Tuesday, some of us will get there on Sunday to get an early start Monday morning, laying out parking lot, vendor spaces, and the concours area. Tent, snack room, club store, meeting rooms, speaker room, all need to be setup or organized. We will be furnishing, at no cost, an orange worker's tee shirt for each day you work. If you have not already, please send your shirt size and days you can work to Chris Winslow, chriswinslow@charter.net, or myself kerry63021@yahoo.com. If you wife or associate is also willing and available to work, send that information and shirt size as well.

Don't forget to make your hotel reservations. See the website links on www.gatewaygto.org for details on contacting the hotel for reservations.

Don't Forget: Dues are due NOW. When you pay your \$35 annual fee, that includes the GTOAA Membership and the Gateway Membership. If you are paying before your expiration date, your membership will extend to the current date.

The next 2017 GTOAA Convention planning meeting is at 7:00PM on Wednesday, March 22 at The Sport's Café. Usual dinner at 6:00 if you want.

The next Regular Business, Meeting of Gateway GTO will be on March 2, 2017 at The Sport's Café, and of course, dinner at 6:00. We would like to schedule Guest Speakers at our meeting to inform us of anything pertaining to life, family or even cars. If you know an "expert" or at least someone you trust on a topic, let's try to put a schedule together for the meetings next year. Also, any ideas for Tours or Cruises would gratefully accepted. Don't forget, if you suggest it, you will most likely be appointed to run it.





Meeting Minutes



Minutes for 2/2/17

7:02 – Meeting start

Old Business

November Wine Cruise – Sandra Melrose spoke a bit about it

Christmas Party – Kerry Friedman talk about the event. We had over 50 members in attendance

Pizza Party – Kerry said that everything turned out as well as in the past few years

Nationals Planning meeting – Went ok, and things are getting lined up nicely

7:05 – New Business – GTOAA Convention. We are putting together a worker schedule. The club is providing a shirt for every day that a member works the event, so we need info from membership about days and sizes. Get your registration in as soon as possible. Saturday April 29th will be a planning meeting at the host hotel.

7:10 – Upcoming events –

3/22 – GTOAA 2017 Planning meeting.
7PM at Sports Café

4/16 – Easter Car Show at the Muny
(classic GTOs in upper lot, New Age GTOs in lower lot) Details on classic registration to follow. (CSE)

6/27 - 7/1 – GTOAA National Convention
at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Ill.

7:16 – GTOAA Report – Kerry Friedman mentioned an article in the Legend about the Gateway GTO Ladies. Steve Hedrick talked about GTOAA releasing information earlier for future National events. 2018 will be in Valley Forge Pennsylvania. Tom Oxler gave an update on activities. Check our website and/or

GTOAA site for complete schedule.

7:28 – Tech – John Havens spoke about a new PCV valve for Tri-power engines, and issues with different valley pan styles.

Denny Gunn is looking for a source for repairing radios.

7:33 – Club Personals – Jim Kiburz father passed away.

7:35 – Motion to adjourn by John Taylor, seconded by Andrew O'Sullivan

50/50 of \$28 won by Kerry Friedman





Convention Corner



2017 has arrived! As we prepare to host the GTOAA convention, Tom Oxler has put together set of committee assignments. There have been some recent updates as we get closer to the event. Please review the list. If you would prefer to be moved to another activity, please let Kerry Friedman or Tom Oxler know.

REGISTRATION Chair Chris Winslow 636-939-2770 chriswinslow@charter.net	Committee Members		
	Terrie Oxler Amy O'Sullivan Paula Winslow Jim & Mary McCarthy Mary Ann Ray Darrell & Tootie May	Andrew O'Sullivan Bev Mayweather Barb Lewis Annette & Cecil Mor-ton Debbie Brune	Cheryl Chapman Mary Ann Ray Anita Jackson Debbie Bond Jeanne Garvey Beth Hargrave
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	Denny Gunn Harry Smelcer Dave Island Debbie Friedman	Bev Mayweather Sue Vie Paul Kondrick Carolyn (Bezzoli)	Tootie May
ACTIVITIES Chair Terry Schott 636-273-6313 tschott@kelpe.com	Committee Members		
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CAR SHOW/TECH/LOT Chair Frank Chapman 618-523-4636 cchapman7328@att.net	Committee Members		
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VENDORS/SWAP MEET Chair Will Bowers 618-656-1899 wwbdsb@yahoo.com	Committee Members		
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SPONSORS/SPEAKERS Chair John Johnson 573-581-8013 johnjohn@midamerica.net	Committee Members		
	Jon Havens Bob Blattel Dave Huesgen Jim Moran Jim Kiburz	Danny Schmidt Charley & Jeanne Simpson Carl Thoenen Scott Brandt Scott Hudler	



Transmission Fluid Change on a 2004 GTO Manual

By
Chris Winslow

At over 10 years old and a trip to the Nats in Springfield just around the corner, I decided it was time to swap out the factory fill transmission fluid in my 2004 manual. One would not think there would be that much to changing the fluid, but it turned out to be a bit more involved than I thought.

The first thing I had to figure out was what type of fluid to use. I first started with the owners manual. It simply said Dexron III. Of course, as most people know, Dexron III has long since been discontinued. I next turned to the online forums. It turns out, like most things on the forums, there are raging debates on this with lots of people posting lots of opinions. For every person who talked about how great this aftermarket or that aftermarket fluid made their transmission shift, there were other people saying just the opposite. Next, I turned to my GM factory service manuals. Those manuals were calling for “GM Goodwrench –III, GM P/N 12378470 or the equivalent Dexron III.

So, I started trying to find 12378470. That was also no longer available. One person I spoke with at a GM parts counter suggested to just replace it with Dexron VI since that is the new universal fluid for “everything”. After doing some additional research in that, however, I found a TSB that specifically said NOT to use Dexron VI in a manual transmission or transfer case. That TSB recommended, instead the use of 88861800 Manual Transmission and Transfer Case Fluid. In addition, I found MSDS sheets that cross referenced 12378470 to 88861800. Based on all of this, I decided to go with the 88861800.

The next step was to figure out how much fluid I needed. There was a bit of disagreement on the forums on that as well. Apparently early owners manuals indicated 4.4 quarts. The owners manual in my very late 2004, however called for 4.6 quarts, as did my factory service manuals. So, I headed off to our Sponsor, Gateway Buick GMC, and purchased 5 quarts of the fluid. They had it in stock and I was in and out in only a few minutes.

According to the procedure in the factory service manuals, the fluid must be added through the reverse light switch opening. This is appar-



ently because adding it the transmissions fill plug will result in under-filling the transmission because the angle at which it sits in the GTO. This is backed up by a sticker that is mounted to the side of the transmission adjacent to the fill plug.

The backup light switch is mounted to the passenger side of the transmission fairly high up on the housing adjacent to the frame rail. After scoping it out, I was confident that I could get the switch out, but I had no idea how to get fluid pumped up there to refill the transmission.

I turned to the internet and found a few options. One was a fairly large sort of semi-professional pump system. It would definitely work, but appear to be overkill for my needs. At the other end of the spectrum, I found a small pump the essentially screwed into quart bottles and then allowed you to pump the fluid by pushing up and down on it. The problem was that based on the literature it was going to take about 80 pumps per quart. The idea of pumping that thing all afternoon to refill the transmission also did not appeal to me.

I finally found a solution in-between the two extremes. It was essentially a 1.5 quart syringe specifically designed for this sort of thing.

The final issue was the sealant to use when re-installing the backup light switch. The service manuals were calling for GM 1052080. Once again that turned out to be un-obtainium! I have found, however, that most such sealants are actually not really GM sealants, but really Permatex sealants that GM has slapped a part number on. Based on that I was able to find a cross reference to Permatex High Temperature Thread sealant, which I picked up at Advanced.



Tech Article of the Month

With everything I needed in hand, jacked up the GTO on the passenger side and got to work.

(Note: This would be way easier with a lift, but it is doable with a jack and a jack-stand).

The back up light switch is a bit tricky to get out. After disconnecting the connector. It was time to unthread it. It requires a 22mm wrench. I had a 22mm regular socket, but that would not clear the connector on the switch. I had a 22mm deep socket, but that would not clear the frame rail. So, that left me with a 22mm combination wrench. Probably for the protection of the switch during transmission installation, the engineers at Tremec decided to tuck the switch in a pocket between two raised areas in the housing. So, it took quite a few wrench re-positions to get the switch out.

With the switch out of the way, (so that I knew I would be able to refill the transmission), I turned my attention to the drain plug. That was a lot easier. Simply insert a 3/8 inch socket wrench and give it a few turns. The key here is to be careful when removing the plug as the fluid wants to come flying out quickly. With the drain plug out, I pull out the jack stand and lowered the car so that I would be sure to get all of the old fluid out.



I captured all of the fluid in a drain pan and then measured it to see how much was in there. As it turned out there was about 4.2 quarts. A bit less than the 4.6 called for in the manuals.

With the car back in the air and the jack stand in place, I installed the drain plug with a light coating of the thread sealant. Next up it was time to fill.

Tech Article of the Month

The syringe pump that I had purchase was very well thought out. The rear of the unit comes off and the opposite end had twist valve to seal it up. This allows the user to simply pour in 1.5 quarts of fluid, and then put the back of the unit back on, sealing in the fluid.

With the pump filled, I was able to slip under the car, poke the end of the hose into the backup light switch opening and fill the transmission back up 1.5 quarts at a time.



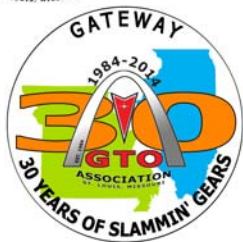
The manual calls for filling the transmission to the bottom of the hole, but that would assume that the car is level. Since I had it jacked up on one side, I went ahead and put in the entire 5 quarts. I then lowered the car to let any excess drain out. As it turns out none did.

With the car back in the air, I applied a film of the sealer to the threads of the backup light switch and put it back in and reconnected it.

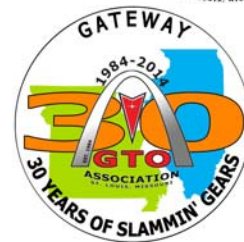
Then, after a quick check to the make sure the backup lights were still working, I took the GTO for a quick spin. I did notice that the neutral to reverse shift was noticeably smoother, but otherwise there was really no difference.

So, in a around an hour with very little mess, I was able to get the fluid changed out and the car back on the road. Next up will be a swap out of the Dexcool.....





Year Of The 7's



Calling all owners of 1967 GTO's!

**This year, in celebration of:
50th Anniversary of the 1967 GTO**

The Hoodscoop will be featuring Car of the Month articles on the anniversary year

If you own one of these special cars, please get to work on your article(s) and get them to Chris Winslow





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!**

Still looking for a 2005 Automatic Car - All other slots have been filled

GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION

Membership/**Renewal** Form

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Associate Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

Occupation: _____

Year & Body Style of Car(s) **ALL PONTIACS:**

Auto related interests, hobbies or talents:

GTO Association of America membership number: _____

GTO Association of America membership renewal date: _____

(found on address label of *Legend*)

PLEASE FILL IN ALL FIELDS

And mail with check to:

Will Bowers, Treasurer
Gateway GTO Association
1 Goshen Woods Lane
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Membership dues are \$35.00 per year, which includes you and one associate member (spouse, girlfriend, etc.) and your GTOAA yearly membership.



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) _____
Have GTO featured in a National Pub (40 Points) _____

Total Points for Month

Submit completed form at GGTOA monthly meeting or to:
B. O'Sullivan
10637 St. Phillip Lane
St. Anne, MO 63074

To access form from GatewayGTO.com, click below
<http://www.gatewaygto.org/clubpoints.html>

2017 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 2 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 19 - Gateway GTO Pinball Wizard Event, 115 Sinclair Ave, South Roxanna, IL, 2PM - 5PM
- 22 - Convention Planning Meeting 7PM at Sports Cafe
- 24 - 2nd Annual Classic Car Trivia Night at the Moolah Shrine, 12545 Fee Fee Rd. 7PM - 11PM.

March

- 2 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 22 - Convention Planning Meeting 7PM at Sports Café

April

- 6 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 8 - JJ'S Car Cruise at 1215 S. Duschene, St. Charles
- 16 - Easter Car Show (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 29 - Convention Planning Meeting at Crowne Plaza (Springfield, IL)

June

- 27- July 1 - 2017 GTOAA National Convention. Everyone's help will be needed. (CLUB SPONSORED)

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds

For Sale

Set of four 17" Cadillac Factory 7 Spoke Wheels (from 2008 CTS) with Continental Extreme Contact Winter Tires - Make Offer - Contact Chris Winslow if interested 636-939-2770

GATEWAY GTO 30th ANNIVERSARY TEE SHIRTS



Gray;	S-XL	\$14	2X-3X	\$16
White;	S-XL	\$13	2X-3X	\$15

**Shirts are available for purchase at club functions or
contact Kerry Friedman**



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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 Thursday of the month at Sports Café 3579 Pennridge Dr, Bridgeton, MO 63044

Membership dues are \$35.00 per year and all renewals are required to be paid by December 31st. You are allowed to have one associate member.

Club Sponsor



**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 or
www.gatewaygto.com**

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.



THE HOOD SCOOP

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St. Peters, MO 63376

