



THE HOOD SCOOP

May 2017

My GTO's

By John Kehrein

Gateway GTO
Association



My interest in cars started when my Dad took me to the Chevy dealership where he worked as an accountant and showed me the service bays and then let me sit in a new 1954 Corvette.

When I turned 16, Dad let me, (helped me), start buying a series of cars over the next several years through the dealership. Those cars included an Olds, a Buick, and a Chevy until we found a 1960 Pontiac Ventura. I had kind of self taught myself how to do some mechanical and body work on the other cars, but the Ventura only needed cosmetics and a 4 barrel rebuild.

My boss at the time bought a new loaded '65 Catalina and of course the challenge got issued. We almost got caught street racing so we decided to try semi local US 30 Drag strip. The Ventura launched hard, felt fast but wasn't. The Catalina became a local legend. It won every Sportsman's class it ran. It was truly a "went to work - to work - in the middle of the week" built car. So I needed a faster car; a '65 GTO should do it.

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THE HOOD SCOOP

GTO of the Month

(Interestingly, at a past GTO convention, Arnie Beswick was kind enough to talk to me for awhile. He also lived in the area of US 30 Drag strip and we determined that we had both raced there in the summer of 1965. Amazingly, he asked me if I had any pictures – no camera. He didn't remember seeing me there though; probably just because I was in a different class.)

Just then my Uncle (SAM) decided that I should go to work for him. I had liked shooting guns, but I didn't want to carry one all the time, so I believed the Air Force recruiter about an education (worked out well later), traded two years for four and enlisted. Got trained, got to work on jet fighters and other guys' cars in Texas and South Carolina, when my Dad found a perfect 1963 Bonneville for me. It was white over bronze with all that brightwork and leather inside. I got it all detailed when they decided we needed to see more of the world – yeah, you guessed it – way southeast. My Mom takes the Bonneville and loves it, says it's hers now.

So we're standing on the flightline at Saigon airbase, when the line boss gives us a copy of "Stars & Stripes" so we can ogle the centerfold. And there she is in a full body shot, gorgeous and stacked ----- a 1967 GTO. We bench raced power options and colors for weeks, and I knew some day I'd have one. I didn't know it would take 20 years.

When I got back, I got married, finished my service at Scott Air Force base on DC9s and went back to Chicago for college and to start a family. I had reclaimed the Bonneville from Mom and refurbished it to new status and went to work on the United Airlines ramp at O'Hare. So I look out the apartment window one morning and a red Ford Galaxy is parked where I'd left the Bonneville. They never found it.

Pontiacs were too expensive as "my three sons" arrived – Dan, Mike, and Dave, along with baseball, football, soccer, scouts, band, etc. ---- all good times. But I kept reading the want ads and managed to flip some cars (the nicest was a '34 Chevy 2 door coupe), but no GTOs.



GTO of the Month



Finally in 1987 there was an ad for a 1966 convertible. Dad and I met with the owner, a young man needing money for college. It was rough, sagging, but all there and running. On the way home, more of the top fabric tore away. Two weeks later I was laid off from MCI Telecom, and moved to St. Louis to work for a plastics company. They would not pay to move the car, so I said “let’s drive”. Dan and I duck taped the top up, but a lot of that was quickly gone, along with the rear window that blew out and went under the semi following us. It’s driver was pounding the steering wheel and laughing hysterically. He did honk at me later when he passed us, still laughing. But Dan and Mike had a great time in the wind in the back-seat – we made it the 300 plus miles.

I stripped the convertible, removed the interior and front clip, and did all the body work. At the same time, I found a 1967 GTO hardtop in Pontoon Beach Illinois. The owner decided it was too rough and was going to part it out and crush the rest. It was a no money rusty basket case – needed floors, truck floor, sills, lower rear window metal and removal of the rebel flag painted on the trunk lid. But it was all there and it ran. I put air in the tires and almost made it home when it quit. The alternator wasn’t working, but a jump got it going. It was in such bad shape that I knew I couldn’t do it so I farmed it out at \$100 at a time – it took two years. With the engine and trans rebuilt, it came back as a drivable shell. Then both cars sat; laid off again.

So I bought a quick lube north of Clayton, grew it, and put all three boys through college. But I was working everyday for 16 years. Killed the marriage, but I got to keep the cars and the business.

I put the Goats in rental storage and worked on the ’67 the only time I had off, on Sunday afternoons. I met Linda and she enjoyed going with on Sundays. I’d met a car-gal ! We got married. Instantly I had two daughters, Mylinda and Rebecca.

We worked on the ’67 as time allowed. In total it took exactly 12 years plus 3 days

(invoice to invoice) to finish the car. It's gratifying to know that I saved one. At a POCI convention Jim Wangers took a look at our car and said that he enjoyed seeing it and posed for pictures with us.

At the same time, I farmed out the stripped '66 for paint and drivetrain rebuild. This also took two years, while I did all the pieces-parts polishing and painting. It too came back a drivable shell. The assembly process took Linda and I three years. Total time on this one (invoice to invoice) was 20 years less 2 months.

So we had two of the three "tri-sixes", the stacked highlight years, when a '65 GTO came up on Ebay. I jokingly said it was a coin toss. So Linda got a quarter and it came up yes, (I still have the quarter). We bought it sight unseen from the gentleman who bought it from the bail bondsman who got it from the drag racer/drug dealer who built it and then got busted. It's set up as a drag car. And the seller's wife took one ride and said "not on my street". It's a bored and stroked 455/468, TH400 with reversed shifter, locker 3.55 rear under an Art Morrison drag-pack sub frame. It drives ok, but the club Dyno day proved it had no power. The fuel and ignition systems need work, so now it's sitting.

When we got the '67 GTO finished we met Tom and Steve at a Warrenton car show, and joined the Gateway GTO Club. It's been fun ever since, so thanks for that.

My son Michael is the only one who got the car gene, so I'll help him on his '65 Mustang while I put tool kits together for our (currently) three grandkids, and get them started on the "classics".





Presidents Scoop

The Presidents Scoop

By Kerry Friedman

June is almost here and the two Convention Hotels are almost booked up. Over 300 registrations, 71 Concours cars, all the activities are filling up, the vendors are registering, and it's like we are coasting to the finish line. The Workers schedule is full, and we have all the Speakers signed. The Tee Shirts are here, and in four weeks we will be on the eve of the Convention. Congratulations and Thanks to All of you who have been working on this for over two years. We just had our 15th scheduling meeting. Now is the time for the rest of you to get your reservation in for the Convention, book your room, and sign up for some activities. It is exciting to see this event start as an idea and come to fruition as it has.

The next 2017 GTOAA Convention planning meeting will be on Monday, June 12 at the Sport's Café.

The next Regular Business, Meeting of Gateway GTO will be on June 1, 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 5/4/17

7:11 – Meeting start – New Members – New member Barry Korman and infrequent attendee Dan Wilson were present.

Old Business – The Easter Show turned out nice despite the weather.

7:15 – New Business – GTOAA Convention discussion by Tom Oxler. Next year's convention will be held in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. He brought in artwork for the meet shirts. It looks awesome. Tom also brought in examples of the mugs and dash plaques. The next planning meeting will be on May 24th at the Sports Café. The last planning meeting will be June 12th.

7:25 – Upcoming Events –

5/26, 6/30, 7/28 - Optimist Cruise-in, Washington, MO. At the Iron Spike Model Train Museum. \$15 per car.

6/27 – 7/1 – GTOAA National Convention, Crown Plaza Hotel, Holiday Inn Express, Springfield IL.

9/10 – Wheels in Motion Charity Car Show, Westport Plaza.

9/16 – 9/17 – GTOAA Regional Car Show, Pontiac, IL.

7:34 – GTOAA – Tom Oxler talked about CHIP program for gaining new GTOAA members and the refer a friend program. We now have 3900 members.

7:37 – Tech – Tom Oxler is now on the fourth motor in his 66 GTO. He was recently having a valve stem issue.

7:42 – Club Personals –

Brian O'Sullivan's dad has been in the hospital

for weeks due to complications from heart valve surgery. He is currently in a rehab facility for physical rehabilitation.

Steve Hedrick's mother is now in a nursing home. His father has been hospitalized for afib a few times recently.

Paula Winslow's mother is in a nursing home for hospice.

7:45 – Motion to Adjourn by Craig Glen, seconded by Earl Lewis.

50/50 of \$38 won by Kerry Friedman

The next regular meeting will be held on June 1st.





ATTENTION GATEWAY GTO MEMBERS!!!

**THERE ARE STILL LOTS OF GATEWAY
GTO MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT YET
REGISTERED FOR THE 2017 GTOAA
CONVENTION - TIME IS RUNNING
OUT!!!!**

**THIS IS THE LAST CONVENTION THAT
WILL BE THIS CLOSE TO HOME FOR
SEVERAL YEARS - DON'T MISS IT!!**

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE
AND REGISTER TODAY!!!**



Convention Corner



MEET T-SHIRT GRAPHICS

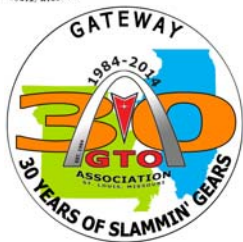


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DESIGN #: GTOAA 2017 Springfield, IL
DESIGN NAME: GTOAA 2017
DESIGN DATE: 2-7-17



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

May

- 4 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 13 - JJ'S Car Cruise at 1215 S. Duschene, St. Charles
- 24 - Convention Planning Meeting 7PM at Sports Café
- 29 - 28th Annual Cobblestone Nationals at Fast Lane Classic Cars

June

- 1 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 10 - JJ'S Car Cruise at 1215 S. Duschene, St. Charles
- 12 - Convention Planning Meeting 7PM at Sports Café
- 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

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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Mary Ann Havens
Owners

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Florissant, MO 63034
jfhavens@sbcglobal.net

(314) 496-7368

Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.
Florissant, MO 63034



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GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Kerry Friedman
11580 State Road WW
Dittmer, MO 63023
573-678-2353
kerry63031@yahoo.com

Vice President IL.

Frank Chapman
10120 Hickory Lane
Bartleso, IL 62218
618-523-4636
cchapman7328@att.net

Secretary

Brian O'Sullivan
10537 St. Phillip Lane
St. Anne, MO 63074
314-2257240
bosullivan@hunter.com

Photo Album Editor

Terrie Oxler
450 Muirfield Dr.
St. Charles MO 63304
636-928-5548
toxler@prodigy.net

Web

Chris Winslow
44 Marcus Drive
St. Peters MO 63376
636-939-2770
chriswinslow@charter.net

Charity Chairman

Bob Blattel
4564 Austin Knoll Court
St. Charles MO 63304
636-441-3141
bob@blattels.com

Vice President Mo

Terry Schott
18903 Saint Albans Road
Glencoe, MO 63038
636-273-6313
tschott@kelpe.com

Treasurer

Will Bowers
#1 Goshen Woods
Edwardsville IL. 62025
618-791-3110
wwbdsb@yahoo.com

GTOAA Chapter Rep.

Steve Hedrick
3676 Morgan Way
Imperial MO 63152
636-942-4020
shedrick@aol.com

Club Events Chairman

Marty Howard
7 Newcastle CT
St. Charles MO 63301
636-724-8641
nycgto@att.net

Newsletter Editor

Chris Winslow
44 Marcus Drive
St. Peters MO 63376
636-939-2770
chriswinslow@charter.net

Photographer

Chris Winslow
44 Marcus Drive
St. Peters MO 63376
636-937-2770
chriswinslow@charter.net

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

44 Marcus Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376

