



THE HOOD SCOOP

February 2019

R69 GTO

By Kerry Friedman

Gateway GTO
Association



When I was growing up, the first car I remember was a black '49 FORD, and I probably only remember it from seeing pictures. We only had one car and my father worked downtown at a dress factory. Dad would either take the bus, or ride his old fashioned, no gears, no fenders, and no brakes bicycle. Either way he would pass by Thom's Pontiac twice a day.

One Sunday morning, Dad saw an add in the newspaper that had a color picture of a 1956 Pink and Grey 2 door Pontiac. He cut out the add and taped it to the kitchen wall and said he was going to buy that car. Not too long after that, he saw the car in the showroom on his way home one afternoon. The next day, he came home with it. That was our first of quite a few Pontiacs. I can remember taking a trip to Florida in it that summer, and the automatic transmission broke down. We had an unexpected delay before reaching our destination.

I started borrowing the Pontiac at night when my parents were downstairs watching TV. I was 14 years old. That didn't last too long because one time, I ran out of gas, drained the battery down, and got home after Dad had tried to go bowling and found no car. My folks and the Police were waiting for me when I finally got back.

That same year we got a 2nd car, a 1964 Lemans hardtop with a 6-cylinder, bucket seats, and a 2-speed Powerglide. I then had two cars to borrow, and yes, I got caught again. 1965 and it was time to trade in the old Pontiac. They got another Lemans, turquoise with similar options. After I got my license, and was a senior, I was in a car accident where a car broad-sided the '64. It was a mess, but it got fixed. I also had an accident where I

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THE HOOD SCOOP

Car of the Month



rear-ended a couple of cars with the '65 and it was totaled. When we bought the Leman's, I got a GTO poster and hung it up in my room. I'm not sure but I probably said, "I'm going to get one of these someday."

During high school I bought a '57 Ford Fairlane, 4 door, blue and white, for an astounding \$ 80. I couldn't keep it since I was going to college and sold it for \$200 to a fellow I worked with. After it stopped working, he beat me up.

My first new car was a 1969 Malibu Convertible, red with white top and black interior, 350 V8 auto. It had a bench seat with column shifter. My first Pontiac was a '78 Grand Prix all decked out, but I lost custody of it in my divorce. Years later, I bought Debbie a Grand AM that we would trade in for a Malibu SS, and the latest Pontiac was a 2004 Grand Prix GTP.

After experiencing health issues in 1996 and 2001, Debbie asked me: "If I could have anything, what would I want?" Maybe she thought I wasn't going to be around much longer and needed to start emptying my bucket list. I told her I wanted a car. Not being prepared for this, I then started looking online, in newspapers and magazines. It didn't take too long to remember the GTO poster, and narrow my selection to a GTO. Then I just had to decide which year. Having had the '69 Malibu, and liking that body style, it was going to be one of the years 1968-1972.

I was traveling a lot in those days, especially in the Chicago area. I went to the VOLO Auto Museum on one trip but didn't see anything I could afford. Back at home the following weekend, I saw a 69 GTO advertised on the VOLO website that I could afford. I had totally overlooked it when I was there. The next weekend, we had appointments to look at a 1970 GTO in St. Charles, IL, and to see the GTO at VOLO. The 70 was OK, but after seeing the 69 in bright lights inside the showroom, that was my choice. I couldn't test drive it until the next day, so we stayed overnight and took it for a spin on Sunday, after which I bought the car. The next Friday, the boys got to take off school for this very special occasion. I rented a U-Haul trailer and the three of us drove up to get the car.

There were several issues with the GTO that I knew of when I bought it; the top of the dash was cracked, the front bumper needed work, and it had a new radio/cassette player in the dash.

Car of the Month

My first project was going to be fixing the front bumper and getting the car ready to be used in our niece's wedding. I found a body shop in Alton that specialized in muscle car rehab. We dropped the car off and didn't get it back until Friday, the day before the wedding. To get job done for less, I had all the trim and headlights, etc., to clean up, paint, and put back in before it was ready. I worked all night on the car. I even had to remove the bumper to get some wiring in before the bumper. After a few hours sleep, I washed and waxed the car, got cleaned up and started for the wedding in south county. As I crossed I-44 on 270, I floored it to see what it would do. It went fast, and then suddenly, white smoke started pouring out of everywhere. I limped the rest of the way to the wedding and had to have it towed home.



The head was cracked, two pistons had holes in them, and it had to be rebuilt. So much for an engine that was supposed to have just been overhauled. Over the years, the more I did to the car, the more I found out that what was supposed to have been done to the car before I bought it, had not been done, or needed to be done again. That tradition goes on as sometimes I must do something three times to get it right.

Car of the Month

Over the years since then, I have had the front clip reworked and painted, then the whole car redone and painted including repairing floor pans, replacing hood and a quarter panel, trunk floor, and gas tank. The interior has been completely redone, with Legendary upholstery, new carpet, headliner, correct year radio, and more. Do to overheating, the water pump has been adjusted, the fan has been replaced and finally an aluminum radiator to resolve that problem. The Turbo 400 3-speed automatic transmission has been replaced with Tremec 5-speed manual for more fun, better highway driving, and better gas mileage. And, as you all know, something is always breaking or just needs replacing, so what still needs to be done? There is some rusting on the frame, there is an oil leak, the gas pedal doesn't always go down the way it should, and on and on. Will it ever be finished? Now I wonder if the great looking Judge, that was just professionally restored, was really too expensive, when I consider what I have spent on this one.

It was either just before or just after buying the car, that I joined the Gateway GTO Association. The first year or so, I couldn't take the GTO to the events for one reason or another, mostly because it was in pieces. I got involved with the GTOAA National Convention that we sponsored in 2005, at the now Double Tree Hotel in Maryland Heights. I was really impressed by how Gateway could come together to pull it off as such a success. Next, I inherited the Secretary position when the Secretary left the Club. Four years as Vice President, Missouri, and four years as President, leaves me at ease when I go to the monthly meeting and don't have to do anything. It has been a lot of work and a lot of fun, but mostly a lot of exceptional people. That being said, the best part of my GTO is the GTO and Pontiac people.

We have driven the GTO as far as Dayton and Columbus, OH, Wichita, KS, and Louisville, KY. It has been towed to Pittsburgh, PA and Saratoga, NY for GTOAA National Conventions.





Presidents Scoop

The Presidents Scoop

By Terry Schott

According to Punxsutawney Phil, the weather forecasting groundhog, spring is on its way sooner rather than later. He didn't see his shadow, but I still see a lot of snow and ice. The great thing about February is that it usually is the end of the worst winter weather. March may not be great, but spring is definitely right around the corner.

If you didn't make it to the Gateway GTO pizza party, you missed out on another great event. Approximately 55 people showed up and as usual the pizza was good. At our request, they adjusted the serving line to keep the salad line and pizza line separate, which made both lines flow much better. It seemed to work out well. Marty Howard discussed two of our upcoming events, pinball, and an escape room. We had a 50/50 drawing this year and additional draws for a couple of items that, thanks to Jeff Bond, were donated to be given out as well. The 2018 Club Participation Awards were given to Joe and Bev Mayweather for 1st Place, and Craig Glenn for 2nd Place. The day was capped off by a drive home in the snow! The predicted flurries turned into about an inch of snow and with the cold temperature the roads were a little slick. We saw wrecks on the way home, but to my knowledge, all our members made it home okay.

Our February meeting was held on February 7th and even though it was a cold and very windy night, we had over 30 people at the meeting. I was very happy to see that many members show up. We discussed a number of opportunities for the club to be involved in this year. There was discussion of a bowling event in the future. We have again been asked to provide GTOs for a parade to Blanchette Park in St. Charles, on Saturday, May 4, at 10 AM. The GTOs will be used to provide rides for Veterans to be in the parade. It only takes a couple of hours and it really means a lot to the Veterans. Last year they were thrilled to ride in a GTO. I hope you will consider participating this year. More information will be available in the near future.

Our next upcoming event is the Pinball Tournament held on Sunday, February 24. It will be held at CP Pinball in South Roxanna, IL and runs from 2 PM – 5 PM. We need about 30 people to make it work, so consider joining us. It is not limited to members only, so you can bring a friend or co-worker to participate as well. Information is on the website and Chris has already sent out an email about it. Thanks to Marty Howard for setting it up and I hope to see you there.

In 2014, the club, with a lot of work by Brian O'Sullivan, had a sticker made for the





Presidents Scoop



30th anniversary of the club, “30 Years of Slammin’ Gears”. Well, it’s already 5 years later, so it’s time to update it. Thanks again go out to Brian O’Sullivan for the re-design and Chris Winslow for realizing the need for a new sticker. The new stickers are available to members in good standing for FREE. We handed some out at the February meeting. They will be available at all of our meetings so stop by on March 7th to get one.

If anyone has an idea for an event, or a speaker for any of our meetings, be sure to call or email me about it. The officers are here to help, but it’s you, the members, that make it work.



Be sure to note that the convention site is up and can be accessed at www.gtoaa.org





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



Minutes 2/7/19

7:01PM – Meeting Start – New members Sharon and Ron in attendance.

Old Business – Terry Schott recounted the events from the Christmas Toy Drive, Christmas Party and the Pizza Party

7:06 – New Business - Terry Schott discussed the possibility of raising yearly club dues and slightly increasing the cost of the Christmas Party. We are also looking for a new venue for the annual pizza party, as the Pirrone's is now charging us \$150 just to use the room. It was previously free. He brought in new updated decals that celebrate the club's 35th anniversary. They are available for free, see Terry.

Marty Howard spoke about the upcoming Pinball and Escape Room events. The Escape Room will likely be scheduled for March 23rd. It will be \$28 per person.

Terry Schott talked about the Easter Car show, which this year takes place on April 21st. He also mentioned that Laura Kiefer has put together last the club photo album. He spoke about the possibility of eliminating the club participation program.

Earl Lewis talked about getting some signed Cardinals memorabilia for the Wheels in Motion Car Show raffle.

Terry Schott asked for anyone with ideas for new activities to please let him know.

Marty Howard said the he would look into a possible tour of a USPS facility.

Terry Schott mentioned that they would like Gateway to participate in the Veterans Day Parade again this year. The vets loved getting to ride in the GTOs.

Steve Hedrick gave information about the Honor Flight program and a fundraiser for it. He also talked about a Pontiac show taking

place in Pidgeon Forge, Tennessee, and another event called the Freedom Road Rally.

7:38 – Upcoming Events

2/24 – Annual Pinball Wizard Tournament (CSE)

3/16, 23rd or 30th – Mastermind Escape Room Event

4/21 – Easter Car Show (CSE)

5/4 – Veterans Show

6/25-29 – GTOAA National Convention in Lawrenceburg, TN (CSE)

8/2-4 – Ames Tri-Power Nationals, Norwalk, OH

8/24 – Meals for a Million(CSE)

9/8 – Wheels in Motion Charity Car Show (CSE)

9/21-22 – Pontiac Region Event in Pontiac, IL (CSE)

10/6 – Annual Gateway GTO Club Picnic (CSE)

12/7 – Gateway GTO Christmas Party

7:43 – GTOAA – Frank Chapman talked a bit about the National Event in Lawrenceburg, IN.

7:46 – Tech – Terry Schott talked about his work on his GTO.

7:47 – Club Personals

Chris Winslow updated everyone on how Paula's knee surgery went, and her recovery. She is doing well.

Steve Hedrick's shoulder is getting better.

Steven Paul is having his tonsils removed.

Daryll May is having his heart medications adjusted.

7:53 – Motion to Adjourn by Marty Howard, seconded by Craig Glenn.

50/50 of \$35 won by Kerry Friedman





Marty's March Activity



MASTERMIND ROOM ESCAPE

WHAT IS AN ESCAPE ROOM? It's a real-life game experience where people participate in various activities, find clues, and solve puzzles to work as a team to ESCAPE out of a room in 60 minutes or less.

DaVinci's Workshop (The only room(s) that can have more than 12 participants)

STORY: While away working on his latest invention, DaVinci received word that thieves were going to ransack his home. His plea was for somebody...anybody...to save his greatest masterpiece, the Mona Lisa. So your team needs to get in, find the Mona Lisa, and get out before the thieves arrive and do with you what they will. Max. 1 hour.

DIFFICULTY: Easy-Med

ESCAPE RATE: 40%

COMMENTS:

"The whole experience was professional. From the big lobby area, to the detailed video introduction to the game master, everything was well done. The room itself was hard enough to make us work but easy enough we had fun and escaped!"

"We raved about his event, most commenting it is the most fun they have ever had at a club sponsored event."

Held at: 3900 Old Hwy 94 S, St Charles, MO 63304

(Inside Gateway Office Park)

Possible Date: March 23, 2019

Day: Saturday

Time: Approx. 2-3 pm

Price: \$28 per person

NOTES:

- Up to 16 people max.
- 1st 16 people's checks received will be registered.
- This is available for "competing rooms" so your group can split up your group of up to 16 and play head-to-head on the same puzzles.
- Send checks to: Marty Howard, 7 Newcastle Ct., St. Charles, MO. 63301
 - Payable to: Marty Howard
- If you show up too drunk (or, drugged – for those that can identify), (meaning, cannot properly stand or will annoy others), you will not be allowed to play and no refund will be given. So, please go party after!
- Games start promptly at their scheduled start time. If you arrive late, you will not be let into the game. Always arrive 15 minutes early.





Marty's March Activity



FAQ'S:

PARKING: 3900 S Old Highway 94 St. Charles, MO 63304. We are located in Gateway Office park and have plenty of parking spots in our huge lot. So, no worries about parking.

AM I ACTUALLY LOCKED IN: NO. Your entry door to the game will always remain unlocked and you can leave at any time.

ARE ANY OF YOUR ROOMS SCARY: No. Some of the props might be a bit disturbing to some people (like an obviously fake arm), but don't worry, it's nothing like those Halloween haunted houses. Everything looks fake and there are no live actors in the rooms.

HOW LONG DOES AN ESCAPE ROOM TAKE :The escape game itself is 60 minutes, unless you can brilliantly escape sooner, but plan on being here a total of 75 minutes as we have rules to go over before the game starts and you will likely want pictures taken afterwards.



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.

Route 66 Cruise Days 8 and 9

GTOAA ROUTE 66 STREET LEGENDS CRUISE BY G. TOM OXLER

Days 8 and 9
September 24 and 25, 2018
Amarillo, TX to Santa Fe, NM



We begin Day 8 losing the Texas contingent in Shamrock but picking up a riding couple who flew in to Amarillo to ride with friends, we now have a total of 26 vehicles. After breakfast of biscuits and of course gravy at the Big Texan, we proceed west in Amarillo to the famous Cadillac Ranch.

The Cadillac Ranch is 10 old Cadillacs partially buried nose down in the middle of a farm field just west of Amarillo, TX. It was created by three artists from San Francisco and a local millionaire in 1974. Can you imagine three San Francisco artists getting together today with a Texas millionaire? It was fun spray-painting GTO and GTOAA on several of the cars but the trash





was terrible. Many folks just toss their spent spray cans and bags so it looks pretty bad.

Our first stop is the Magnolia Station in Vega, TX. This station was built in 1926 is another very well restored service station showing you how they looked 90 years ago.



We have been on the road for about two hours so it must be time to eat again so we stop in Adrian, TX at the Midpoint Café. Since the biscuits and gravy were still holding strong, we opted for some homemade apple pie. Adrian is the exact midpoint between Chicago and Santa Monica and makes for some really great photos. I had Terry Schott in his 2006 GTO line up with Alan Finkenbinder with his 1970 GTO for an Old and New GTOs at the Midpoint shot.



After resting outside the Sunflower Station next door, we headed west to Glenrio. This is pretty much a ghost town but it does have a Pontiac sitting outside an abandoned service station. You can follow the old route west of Glenrio but it is 18 miles of gravel that no one wanted to try.

We are now in New Mexico and we stop at Russell's Travel Center for a rest stop and to view the private collection of old cars. Our final stop of the day is Tucumcari,

Route 66 Cruise Days 8 and 9

NM and the famous Blue Swallow Motel.

The Blue Swallow opened in 1939 and has 12 individual units with several having a garage. The wide track Pontiacs found it difficult to get the doors open so most of them stayed outside. The Blue Swallow had been completely refurbished with all of the modern amenities including AC, TV and WIFI. The neon on the Blue Swallow is unbelievable.

At dinner at Del's Restaurant, we were joined by Jamie Saavedra and Mark Terkeltraub from the Land of Enchantment GTO Club. Later that evening around a fire pit at the Blue Swallow, the LOE Club raffled off Route 66 prizes to the Cruisers. The Land of Enchantment GTO Club will now help lead us through New Mexico all the way to Gallup.

Our mechanical issues today involved replacing the coil on Dave Fuszner's Ford and Mark Melrose getting a tire repaired. Back in Vege, Jeff "Elvis" Caldwell had no electric windows and the convertible top would not go up. Changed the fuse and all were working again.





We begin Day 9 adding 2 GTOs and a Firebird but losing 2 GTOs, a Trans Am and a Catalina for a total of 26 vehicles. Today's weather is great and we have a long 190-mile trip ahead of us but most of it will be on the Interstate as Route 66 has been completely removed except for a few sections of the really old route that are dirt and gravel.

Jamie and Mark from the Land of Enchantment GTO Club assume the leadership duties to help us see all of the sights in New Mexico. We do not even get out of Tucumcari before we have a couple of stops.

Our first stop is the old ESSO station on Route 66 in town. This was a "Must Stop" due to the ESSO Tiger on the side of the building. Just a few blocks west on 66 is the Tucum-





cari Sculpture which was the back drop for a great group photo with the GTOAA Route 66 Street Legends Cruisers and the Land of Enchantment GTO Club. They look great together. The Route 66 Sculpture was built in 1997 and has become a favorite photo stop for everyone travelling Route 66.

Mark & Jamie lead us through a tunnel under I-40 and into Santa Rosa where we visit the Route 66 Auto Museum. We spent several hours in Santa Rosa to view the museum and to have lunch. We went to the Route 66 Restaurant and found it was Taco Tuesday. Perfect planning by the tour organizers wouldn't you say?

Early in the planning stages of this cruise, we decided to bypass Albuquerque due to road construction on Central Avenue which is Route 66. We chose to take the Santa Fe Loop which is the pre-1937 route and



Route 66 Cruise Days 8 and 9

were we ever glad we did. The scenery was spectacular.

We arrived in Santa Fe to the El Rey Inn and visited each other's rooms to see what they were like. The El Rey is classic southwestern style architecture located on old Route 66 close to downtown Santa Fe.



After dinner at Harry's Roadhouse, the weather turned cool and began to rain so we moved the evening get together into the hotel lobby where we celebrated Tom & Linda Raufer's 25th Anniversary.



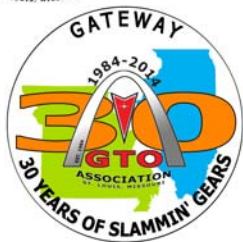


Route 66 Cruise Days 8 and 9



No significant mechanical issues to report although many of the old GTOs and Pontiacs were running quite rough due to the altitude of over 7,000 feet. They belch, sputter and blow smoke but they make it.





Year Of The 9's



Calling all owners of 1969 GTO's!

**In 2019, in celebration of:
50th Anniversary of the 1969 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



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>

2019 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 7 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 23 - Mastermind Room Escape Event (CLUB SPONSORED - See flyer in this newsletter for details)

April

- 4 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 21 - Easter Car Show at Muny. Classic cars on the upper lot, New Age GTO's in the lower lot. Classic GTO owners send a check to Will Bowers for \$15 to reserve a spot.

May

- 2 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Sports Café (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 4 - Immanuel St. Charles Church Parade - Details to follow
- 27 - 31st Annual Cobblestone Nationals at Fast Lane Classic Cars

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds

Items Below Offered by JEFF BOND - PHONE 618-772-0402; email - jbgto73@yahoo.com



**EDELBROCK "PERFORMER" CARBURATOR
1411 - 750 CFM ELECTRIC CHOKE
METERING ROD KIT INCLUDED
\$100.00**



**SINGLE FAN RADTIATOR FAN
(OFF 1968 PONTIAC 400 C.I.)**



GTO's For Sale



FOR SALE 2006 PONTIAC GTO

**QUICKSILVER EXTERIOR/LEATHER INTERIOR(BLACK) GOOD
CONDITION**

41,XXX MILES; LS-2 - 400HP/4-SPEED AUTOMATIC

PS; POWER SEATS; A/C; AM/FM MULTI DISC CD PLAYER

CLEAN! ASKING \$17,500

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Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.
Florissant, MO 63034



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GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Terry Schott
18903 Saint Albans Road
Glencoe, MO 63038
636-273-6313

tschott@kelpe.com

Vice President II.

Dan Jackson
P.O. Box 234
Greenville, IL 62246
618-664-0437

dajalj@gmail.com

Secretary

Brian O'Sullivan
10637 St. Philip Lane
St. Ann, MO 63074
314-225-7240

bosullivan@hunter.com

Photo Album Editor

Laura Kiefer
70 Keystone Drive
Old Monroe, MO 63369

1977kieferla@gmail.com

Web

Chris Winslow
644 Emge Rd.
O'Fallon MO 63366
636-294-8104

chriswinslow@charter.net

Charity Chairman

Bob Blattel
4564 Austin Knoll Court
St. Charles MO 63304
636-441-3141

bob@blattels.com

Vice President Mo

Chris Winslow
644 Emge Road
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-294-8104

chriswinslow@charter.net

Treasurer

Will Bowers
#1 Goshen Woods
Edwardsville IL. 62025
618-791-3110

wwbdsb@yahoo.com

GTOAA Chapter Rep.

Frank Chapman
10120 Hickory Lane
Bartelso, IL 62218
618-523-4636

cchapman7328@att.net

Club Events Chairman

Marty Howard
7 Newcastle CT
St. Charles MO 63301
636-724-8641

nycgto@att.net

Newsletter Editor

Chris Winslow
644 Emge Rd.
O'Fallon MO 63366
636-294-8104

chriswinslow@charter.net

Photographer

Chris Winslow
644 Emge Rd.
O'Fallon MO 63366
636-294-8104

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.

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.



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**



644 Emge Road
O'Fallon, MO 63366

