



THE HOOD SCOOP

June 2020

Fifty Years of 1970 GTO's

by Frank and Cheryl Chapman

Gateway GTO
Association



FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS
An Official Chapter of the GTO Association of America



After owning several Pontiacs during my young adult life, my first exposure to the 1970 GTO was when I graduated from college. As a present to myself I purchased a 1970 Judge Ram Air 4. I did this with the help of my friendly banker. At the time I did not have a job, the banker told me since I had a college degree and a good past history with him to find a car I liked and write the check and he would take care of the paperwork later. Try doing that today.

I drove this on a daily basis after college, and drove it fairly hard. During this time I taught myself the dangers of taking the RPM's too high and what could happen. The factory warranty was good to me on three different occasions.

Among the memorable things that took place during this time was the



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THE HOOD SCOOP

GTO of the Month

marriage to my wife of 47 years, Cheryl. We were married in the car and had to take the car to the car wash before we went on our honeymoon. Her Dad was a Ford dealer and would not let me park my car in his driveway, jealous I guess. I sold the car in 1974 because of the difficulty in purchasing premium fuel during this time. The Ram Air 4 did not like regular octane gas and told me so with bent push rods on several occasions. I sold the car with only 34,000 miles on it and was paid \$2500 and felt good about the price at the time. The bad part of selling the car was that it was wrecked two weeks after I sold it and was sent to a salvage yard.

After selling the Judge I went until 2001 without a GTO. I did have some other Pontiac during this time to include a 1987 Firebird. Then in 2001, with the help of one of my sons, I found a 1970 triple black Ram Air 3 Judge. It was in Indy on a used car lot and had been sitting for some time and it took me quite a while to get it running so I could test drive it. I purchased the Judge and told the salesman to get the fluids changed and I would come back and drive it to St. Louis. He thought I was a bit crazy but after I told him if it wouldn't make the trip I did not want it, he agreed to do it. The trip home was interesting as the car had 456 gears in the rear and at 60mph it was turning 4,000 rpm. As a result three tanks of gas later we made it home. This started a frame on restoration that only took about two years. At that time you could find about anything you needed on the internet. I think it turned out alright. To date we have driven it to several national shows and put around 80,000 miles on the car.



In 2004 my wife decided she needed a 1970 GTO. The search began and I found one that had the options she required. It had air conditioning and an automatic. What I did not tell her was it had a 455 with three deuces and 373 gears and street slicks. She found this out when I test drove it. Her only comment about it was "Now I understand why you like it. We purchase the car in Independence, Kansas and drove it home. This was a great car to take to cruises and the drag strip, with it's three inch exhaust and nice cam. It did draw a lot of attention. We did drive it to Detroit to the nationals, only issue

we had is our credit card called to inquire if we really purchased gas every 150 miles. We kept this car until 2017, at which time I decided to thin the herd down and sold the car.





GTO of the Month



Our next 1970 is a Atoll Blue convertible. We decided a convertible would be nice to have so we could cruise with Harry Timmermann in his 1965 Lemans convertible. We found this in Lansing, Michigan and drove it home. At the time we purchased it, it was cloned to a Judge and since I did not want this we took it back to stock condition. We have made several long trips in this including Route 66 to Seattle and home. It is a good cruiser and does well in shows as well.



In 2012 I had retired and with some time on my hands I decided that we needed another Judge like the Ram Air 4 we were married in. I started looking for one and after several months found one on Ebay. It was the correct color, had the correct equipment and was priced in the range I was looking for. It was in a restoration shop by Seattle getting a mechanical restoration. I contact the seller and after some discussion and research determined it was, in fact, the car I had purchase in 1970. I did not disclose this to the seller at that time. I did contact the person that owned the car previously and got the past history, we were able to verify the history of the car with

the exception of one owner. The car had sit in various location waiting to be restored for several years. When I purchase the car it was near Seattle. A friend and I flew to Seattle picked up the car and drove it home to Illinois. It had 390 gears and we drove 60mph all the way home. At this speed it was turning 3,000 rpm and I did not want to push too hard at this time. As I mentioned earlier it had 34,000 miles when I sold the car, when it came back home it was showing 45,000 miles. Currently it has around 60,000 and still rolling along.

We enjoy our cars and drive them as often as we can. I do not own a trailer, so if you see one of ours on a trailer it is either broke or stolen, either way give me a call.





Presidents Scoop



The President's Scoop

By Terry Schott

COVID 19 is getting better and the state of Missouri has now opened up fully. Illinois is moving forward with their stages of opening also. What does it all mean? The local authorities are still allowed to have the final say, so we really don't know much yet. Several other states are now showing an increase in numbers of cases, so that's not good. I contacted Gingham and they tell me that with social distancing in place, they can't tell me when we might be able to get back in there for a meeting. They told me to just keep checking from time to time. As many of you know, we did have an outdoor meeting at the O'Fallon, Missouri Civic Park. We were able to reserve the pavilion which worked out well. There was plenty of room to spread out the people and with only 25 people in attendance, social distancing was not a problem.

We discussed the hopeful possibility of continuing to have our future scheduled events for September. Until I hear differently, plan on going to Wheels in Motion this year on Sunday, September 13. Last Year's rainout was a disappointment for everyone, so hopefully our show can go on as planned. As you have done in the past, please start to gather up gifts and gift certificates to use at the raffle. Anything you can get donated is very much appreciated. You can also make up gift baskets on any variety of themes; movie night, car detail products, kid's baskets, pet baskets, whatever you can think up. These items always go good at the raffle. I think if we get good weather the show will probably be BIG. BIG, due to the fact that nobody has been able to get out much.

We also plan to do our Pontiac Regional event on Saturday and Sunday, September 19 and 20. I'm planning on this event until told otherwise. Be sure to book your rooms now if you haven't done so already. Last year's weather cut our attendance in half of normal years, but I'm banking on more cars than normal this year due to the fact that the GTOAA convention was cancelled as well as POCL. We will need all of you to help run the show, so please make sure it's on your calendar.

If you missed the last meeting, you missed a special event for the Gateway club. Will Bowers was nominated and awarded the "Tom Foster Award" from GTOAA for all of the exceptional work he has done for GTOAA and Gateway. Will has been a member since the start of the club in 1984 and has held an office for 32 continuous years. He has hosted numerous events over the years for our club. He has also worked at several car shows, including the Tri-Power Nationals in Norwalk, OH, promoting the GTOAA. He has always been there in our club to help out anyone who needs it. It was a very well deserved award, but we were hoping to see it presented at this year's convention in Wichita. Due to its cancellation, Tom Oxler, current GTOAA Director, awarded it to Will at our last meeting.





Presidents Scoop



Some of our future scheduled events will be a car show in Cuba, MO, on Saturday, September 26. Our annual picnic is set for Sunday, October 11, at Vago Park. The Christmas Party is set for Saturday, December 12 in Webster Groves at the Webster Groves Barn (Hawken House) as in the past. Let's keep positive that we can proceed with all of these events. Do your part by following the guidelines and I hope to see you all soon at future events.

Our next meeting will be announced by email in the immediate future.





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



6/4/20 Minutes

6:37PM – Meeting Start – Meeting held at O’Fallon Civic Park in O’Fallon, MO.
Old Business – Due to Covid-19 all activities since March were cancelled.
Gingham’s is still not accepting large groups due to social distancing.

6:40PM – New Business –
GTO Convention cancelled
Tri-Power Nationals cancelled

6:41PM – Upcoming Events
7/11 – Possible Poker Run (UNCONFIRMED)
9/13 – Wheels in Motion – We need raffle items
9/19 – Pontiac Regional Event in Pontiac, Illinois
9/26 – Cuba, MO Car Show
10/11 – Gateway GTO Association Club Picnic
10/16-10/18 – Pontiacs at Pidgeon Forge
12/12 – Christmas Party

6:50PM – GTOAA
Tom Oxler talked about cancelled convention in Wichita. The POCI convention has been cancelled. He talked about the 2021 GTOAA Nationals at Wisconsin Dells. Get GTOAA apparel and accessories at CustomAutoApparel.com.

The Tom Foster award was given to Will Bowers. This is the highest service award for GTOAA. Gateway GTO Club has more Tom Foster Recipients than any other Chapter: Steve Hedrick 2006, Chris Winslow 2017, Tom Oxler 2019 & Will Bowers 2020.

6:59PM – Tech –
Terry Schott talked about a 1969 GTO that is being restored and someone had questions about an engine part. He also gave an update on his GTO’s motor.
Tom Oxler had a question about the vintage air system on his 66 GTO.

7:08PM – Club Personals –
Bev Mayweather had a fall. She went to the hospital but did not have any major injuries. Earl Lewis talked about a friend of his that passed away from Covid. She was an ICU nurse.
John Grissom thanked everyone that helped him figure out issues that he had been having with his GTO.

7:10PM – Meeting End. Motion to adjourn by Brian O’Sullivan, seconded by Terry Schott. 50/50 of \$41 won by Brian O’Sullivan.

After the meeting, everyone spent time looking at John Grissom’s 1967 GTO. This was the car’s first outing following the completion of an extensive restoration.



For Fun Come to the Ninth Annual...

GTOAA REGIONAL ALL PONTIAC CRUISE AND SHOW

proceeds benefit the Pontiac-Oakland Museum

Hosted by the...

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Gateway GTO Club

Pontiac, Illinois
Entertainment, Tours,
Show, Cruise, Fun & More



September 19 - 20, 2020

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**Pontiac-Oakland Museum
& RESOURCE CENTER**

205 N. Mill Street - Pontiac, Illinois 61764

Phone - 815-842-2345

www.pontiacoaklandmuseum.org

both days \$30 Sunday only \$20

for registration & info, see www.gatewaygto.org

Saturday • Private Collections • Tour
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- Quality Inn 815-844-4444
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THE HOOD SCOOP

42nd GTOAA NATIONALS MAKING A SPLASH AT CHULA VISTA RESORT



JULY 5-9, 2021
WISCONSIN DELLS, WI



Hotel: 844.236.6492
Reservation Discount Code: H04446

Tom Oxler: 636.288.1426
Bob Alexander: 970.214.4234
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www.gtoaa.org

Gateway GTO Membership Renewal

Starting in 2020 GTOAA Dues are to be paid directly to GTOAA:

- Do not send GTOAA dues to Will Bowers. Instead renew directly with GTOAA by mail or at www.gtoaa.org.
- All Gateway GTO Members must be GTOAA members in good standing.
- Please contact GTOAA Chapter Representative Tom Oxler with any questions:

Tom Oxler Contact Info:

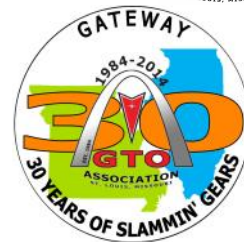
Phone: 636-928-5548

Email: toxler@prodigy.net





Year Of The 0's



Calling all owners of 1970 GTO's!

**In 2020, in celebration of:
50th Anniversary of the 1970 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



2020 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

2 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's (Terry will send out a message on this meeting once it is determined if Gingham's will be able to accommodate the meeting)

31– Aug 2 - Ames Tri Power Nationals in Norwalk

August

6 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's (Terry will send out a message on this meeting once it is determined if Gingham's will be able to accommodate the meeting)

September

3 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's (Terry will send out a message on this meeting once it is determined if Gingham's will be able to accommodate the meeting)

13 - Wheels In Motion Car Show at Westport Plaza

19-20 - GTOAA Regional Event in Pontiac IL.

26-27 - Lions Club Car Show, Cuba Missouri

October

1 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's (Terry will send out a message on this meeting once it is determined if Gingham's will be able to accommodate the meeting)

Gateway GTO Annual Picnic in Vago Park

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds



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Jon's Tri-Power Service

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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 Gingham's, 1566 Country Club Plaza Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303

The are no Gateway GTO membership dues for the year 2020. The rate for membership dues to Gateway GTO for 2021 and beyond will be determined by December of 2020. All Gateway GTO members must be a member in good standing with GTOAA. 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.

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



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