



# THE HOOD SCOOP

February 2022

## My First Goat

By Dan Jackson

Gateway GTO  
Association



Around 1974 (when I was 9 years old) my brother, who was 10 years older, owned a string of muscle cars. One day he rolled up to our house in a 1970 Atoll blue GTO. I was completely amazed with the way it looked and the way it sounded. It was the first time I had ever seen a hood mounted tachometer. After riding in it I was of course convinced it was the fastest car on the planet! He later sold the car for another, but I always remembered it as my favorite. By the time I purchased my first car 10 years later, I gave in to more practical forms of transportation, but always remembered that GTO. I always loved all muscle cars but owning one would have to wait.

In 2006, when I turned 41, I had decided it was now or never and began looking around for a late 60's/early 70's muscle car. It didn't take long before I was only researching GTOs. After looking at several, I really liked the look of the hidden headlights which narrowed my search to 1968 and 1969 models. I came across a 1969 GTO (a 242 serial) with hidden headlights, rear spoiler, and of course a hood mounted tachometer. Of all places it was listed on eBay. I had never purchased anything on eBay and was not going to begin with the purchase of a car. Instead of entering a bid, I called the owner whose number was listed on the eBay ad. The car was located in Kansas – 350 miles away. After speaking with the owner several times, I made an offer that he found acceptable. My wife and I headed to Kansas with a certified check for the agreed amount in hand to check it out. I found the car to be as advertised, and it actually ran stronger than I had expected. I drove the car home without incident with my wife following behind.

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## GTO of the Month

We enjoyed the car for 2 or 3 years then decided to make some upgrades. The car was far from original (Spectramaster Blue paint, non-original motor, trans, etc.) so I decided that custom modifications were not out of the question, and I wanted to enhance performance and drivability. The motor was a Pontiac 400 and ran very strong (and still does today) so I concentrated on other areas for improvement. It already had PS and PB with discs on the front. The overall gearing was pretty low, and it tached around 3800 when running 70 mph. I swapped the TH400 transmission with a 4-speed overdrive California Transmission 200-R. I also replaced the rear axle with a custom Moser 9" Ford (373 gears, narrowed 2") and disc brakes all set up for a GM A-body. Since the rear brakes were now disc, I replaced the proportioning valve with an adjustable one and swapped out the booster and master cylinder. Doing this caused me to custom hand bend all new brake lines, so I went ahead and added a Hurst roll control solenoid for a little tire smoking fun. When the axle went in, I upgraded all of the rear control arms with a Dick Miller adjustable four link set up that included QA-1 adjustable shocks. To improve handling up front, I replaced the front A-arms with Global West tubulars set up for coil over shocks and installed QA-1 coil overs. I did all of the work utilizing only a floor jack and 4 jack stands in my home garage. It was quite a challenge but very enjoyable. The results were awesome, and the car now handles great. I can roll down the interstate at 75 mph at a much more reasonable 3200 rpm.

This car really gave me the GTO fever and lead us to join the Gateway GTO Association and GTOAA. We have added a 1967 coupe (mostly original) and a newer generation 2006 GTO to the Goat Barn. My wife and I truly enjoy the club and joining in on the cruises and other club activities.





# Presidents Scoop

## The President's Scoop

By Chris Winslow

It is starting to feel like things are getting back normal. Maybe not the full up Pre-Covid normal, but at least a lot closer normal than they have been the last 2 years.

One sign is the car shows are starting to come back. For example the Easter Car Show sponsored by the Horseless Carriage Club is on for the first time since 2019. They are still hosting it at the Muny's upper parking lot. This event has historically been the kickoff of the car season here in St. Louis so seeing it back after a two year absence is a great sign. If you are interested in attending that show, please let me know. They have offered us a deal on registration, but we must have at least 10 cars to qualify.

The St. Patrick's Day Dance at the VFW Hall in Arnold is another great sign. This was one of the last public events I remember attending in 2020 before all the lockdowns began and it is back again this year on March 12th. This is always a fun event and the proceeds go to a great cause. Paula and I are planning to be there. See the flyer included in this newsletter for more details and let Steve Hedrick know if you are planning to attend.

In addition Gateway's Club Events Chairman, Marty Howard, is making plans for our annual Pinball Wizard Tournament this spring.

There is also a special event coming up on March 19th at the Shamrock Motel in Sullivan. Roamin' Rich Dinkela has purchased the old motel and is restoring it. On the 19th, he is going to be dedicating a new sign that he had commissioned for the motel and Gateway is invited to attend. Many of you have donated towards the cost of the new sign already. If you have not yet donated but would like to contribute it is not too late. Just send your donation to Will or bring it to our next meeting on March 3rd at Gingham's. For those that would like to attend the dedication, see the flyer in this newsletter for the details.

And, of course, if you have not already done so, now is the time to sign up for the GTOAA National Convention. We have a great venue this time and participants will have the opportunity to drive the track at Bristol, so don't miss out on that!

Finally, it would be great if we could get some new car of the month and technical articles for the newsletter. So, if you have not done one recently, now would be an ideal time before the warm weather gets here.





**Marine Corps League  
Jeffco Detachment  
707**



## **St. Patrick's Day Dance**

**To Support Semper Fi Fund and Toys for Tots**

**ARNOLD VFW POST 2593  
2301 CHURCH RD. ARNOLD, MO 63010  
Date: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 7pm - 11pm**

**Finger Food Provided- Bring snacks for your  
tables**

**\*ATTENDANCE PRIZES\***

**Silent Auction / Raffle Baskets / 50/50**

**Prizes: Best Dressed Couple & Best Dance  
Couple**

**Music by: THE FULL CIRCLE BAND**

**TICKETS: \$25 Person / \$200 for a table of 8**

**Ask Bartender or any Marine Member**



**Contact Steve Hedrick for Tickets**



**THE HOOD SCOOP**





**RICH DINKELA, ROAMIN RICH FROM THE MISSOURI ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION HAS PURCHASED THE SHAMROCK COURT MOTEL IN SULLIVAN, MO. WITH THE HOPE OF RESTORING IT TO ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION.**

**WE ARE SOLICITING FUNDS FROM THE GATEWAY GTO CLUB TO HELP WITH THE EXPENSES IN CREATING A NEW NEON SIGN FOR THE SHAMROCK COURT MOTEL.**

**MAKE YOUR DONATIONS TO THE GATEWAY GTO CLUB AND SEND THEM TO WILL BOWERS AT 4213 NAPA VIEW LANE, ST. CHARLES, MO 63304 BY MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>. THE CLUB WILL ALSO DONATE \$100 TOWARDS THIS EFFORT.**

**THE NEW SIGN LIGHTING CEREMONY WILL BE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 19 FROM 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**THOSE THAT WANT TO ATTEND THE LIGHTING CEREMONY SHOULD MEET AT THE SULLIVAN THE DU KUM INN AT 101 GRANDE DRIVE IN SULLIVAN. FROM THERE WE WILL PROCEED TO THE SHAMROCK AT 1246 SOUTH SERVICE ROAD, W, SULLIVAN, MO**

**QUESTIONS CALL TOM OXLER 636-928-5548.**



# 43<sup>RD</sup> GTOAA NATIONALS WE'RE GOING TO

KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE  
JUNE 28TH - JULY 2ND, 2022  
MEADOWVIEW MARRIOTT  
CONFERENCE RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER  
**BRISTOL BABY!**



HEART OF DIXIE



Event Registration

Plan now and make your reservations!  
Room Reservations: 888-632-3697.  
Mention the GTOAA to get your discount!  
**Join today @ [www.GTOAA.org](http://www.GTOAA.org)**



Room Reservations

**ANY QUESTIONS - PLEASE CALL**

**Tom Oxler: 636-288-1426**  
**Bob Alexander: 970-214-4234**  
**John Owoc: 412-400-5093**



*THE HOOD SCOOP*



# **Gateway GTO**

## **Membership Renewal**

**Gateway GTO Dues for 2022 are \$20 and are due by the annual Gateway GTO Pizza Party.**

- Send dues to Will Bowers by mail or pay in person at the Next Meeting  
Will's Address:  
4213 Napa View Lane  
St. Charles, MO 63304
- In order to Renew with Gateway GTO, members must be members in good standing with GTOAA.

Contact Chris Winslow if you have any questions on renewing your Gateway GTO membership



# GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION

## Membership/**Renewal** Form

(Please print clearly)

☐ New

☐ Renewal

☐ Returning

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Name (Spouse/Significant Other): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Auto related interests, hobbies or talents:

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**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 to:**

Will Bowers, Treasurer  
Gateway GTO Association  
4213 Napa View Lane  
St. Charles, MO 63304

Membership dues are \$20.

You are allowed one associate member (spouse, significant other, etc.).

**All Gateway GTO Members must also be members in good standing with GTOAA**

**Go to [WWW.GTOAA.ORG](http://WWW.GTOAA.ORG) to join or renew GTOAA membership**





# GTOAA Membership Renewal

**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](http://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](mailto:toxler@prodigy.net)



## 2022 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### March

3 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

12- St. Patrick's Day Dance at VFW Hall in Arnold, MO. See Flyer in this newsletter or website for details.

19 - Sign Dedication at the Shamrock Hotel in Sullivan, MO. See Flyer in this newsletter or website for details.

### April

7 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

17 - Easter Car Show - Details to follow

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT [WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG](http://WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG)

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### Gateway GTO Classifieds

#### **WANTED**

**An Enclosed Trailer big enough for hauling a GTO.  
Must be Bumper Hitch Style trailer  
Contact John Johnson 573-473-4928**





*Tammy Hedrick  
Hedrick Insurance Agency  
558 Gravois Road, Suite 201  
Fenton, MO 63026  
636.492.5180 (office)  
314.540.4122 (cell/text)  
thedrick@farmersagent.com*



*Let us protect your life and those things you need to make it work. We'll leave the cruising to you!*

(314) 838-5533

### Jon's Tri-Power Service

Jon F. Havens  
Owner

126 Afshari Drive  
Florissant, MO 63034  
[jfhavens@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jfhavens@sbcglobal.net)

(314) 496-7368

### Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.  
Florissant, MO 63034

**CustomAutoApparel.com**

[CLICK HERE FOR GATEWAY GTO APPAREL CLUB STORE](#)





## GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

### President

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### Vice President IL.

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### GTOAA Chapter Rep.

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### Newsletter Editor

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### Photographer

Chris Winslow  
644 Emge Rd.  
O'Fallon MO 63366  
636-294-8104  
[chriswinslow@charter.net](mailto:chriswinslow@charter.net)

## Advertising Guidelines

Classified ads are free to members. 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 yearly dues for Gateway GTO is \$20. The dues are due by the Pizza Party in January. 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 is free for members in good standing.

Advertising rates for non members 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](http://www.gtoaa.org)

Visit us at  
[www.gatewaygto.org](http://www.gatewaygto.org) or  
[www.gatewaygto.com](http://www.gatewaygto.com)

644 Emge Road  
O'Fallon, MO 63366

