



THE HOOD SCOOP

October 2023

Gateway GTO
Association



An Official Chapter of the GTO Association of America

Annual Gateway GTO Picnic

By Chris Winslow



The annual Gateway GTO picnic was held on October 1st at our usual location at Vago Park in Maryland Heights. After dealing with rain at the GTOAA Regional we were due for a great day for a Gateway event and we got one.

Our official club chefs, Tony Bezzole and Rich Vie showed up early to get the meat on the grill. This year they were joined by Andrew O'Sullivan with support from Terry and Gail Schott. On the menu were hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, chicken and, of course, pork steaks. I learned a lot watching these masters at work.

This event marked the official debut of the new Gateway GTO banners. These were the brain child of Brian O'Sullivan after he saw that the Cadillac Club had a similar banner at a recent car show. Due to some problems with the supplier, we actually ended up with two of the banners and so both were on display and looked great!

It would not be a Gateway GTO picnic without a washer tournament. For this year our tournament was in jeopardy because Barb Lewis's former employer repossessed the washer boxes that we had been using for the tournament. We initially thought about changing it to a cornhole tournament, but I really did not like that idea. So, I headed over to Home Depot to pick up some plywood, pipes and 1x4s and made new boxes. These box-

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Gateway GTO Picnic





Gateway GTO Picnic



es belong to Gateway, so we will have them as long as we want them. At the request of Frank Chapman, I used some pretty plush shag carpet (with padding) to try to make the washer stick better if they landed in the box. As it turned out, that did not really help much. Also, I had spent what turned out to be way too much time painting all of the boxes different colors. They looked great before we started, but at the end of the tournament, they were totally beat up!

After a lot of competition, the winners emerged. The winners of the winners were Sue Vie and new member Greg Wolters. (Greg had just joined the week before and this was his first official Gateway GTO activity). The runners up (aka the winners of the losers) were Jim Schneider and Rich Vie.

Because it was such a nice day we had a great turnout with almost 40 people in attendance. We all owe our chefs Tony, Rich and Andrew our thanks. In addition to cooking, Tony makes this event possible every year by being first in line after the new year to reserve our spot with the City of Maryland Heights so thanks again to Tony for always making it happen!





Presidents Scoop

The President's Scoop

By Chris Winslow

Although September is usually Gateway GTO's busiest month, this year October gave September a run for its money.

First up was our annual picnic. We were blessed with good weather and great cooks, so that event was a big success.

Next up was the Grissom Family Farm event hosted by John and Chris Grissom. That event also had great weather, beautiful scenery, and had been meticulously planned by John, so it was also a big hit.

The other event that many of us took part in was the Annual Collector Car Trivia Night hosted by the Oldsmobile Club. Gateway had a great turn out with 14 of us taking part from 2 different tables. Brian O'Sullivan continues as Gateway's master of trivia and this year his table wound up 1 point short of tying for the win. The other Gateway GTO table did not do quite as well.....

There was one other GTO event that Paula and I attended this month. That was the reveal for the Deputy Kunze 1966 GTO restoration. I have some details and photos in an article in this newsletter. This car will be featured at the GTOAA 2024 convention

Speaking of GTOAA 2024, the GTOAA web site has all of the details up for the convention. You will want to get your rooms reserved soon. Also, there are some really cool activities for 2024 that are sure to fill up fast, so plan to register soon to reserve your spots.

As I have been noting in the newsletter and at the meetings, October and November are the months for our officer elections. I have included in this newsletter the official nomination form for officers. If you would like to run for an office or nominate somebody else to run, please fill out this form and get it to Will Bowers. So far we only have one nomination form that has been turned in, so we could use a few more nominations. The ballot will be in the November newsletter with the winners announced at the Christmas Party.

For this year, the Christmas party will once again be at the Webster Barn. Our date is December 9th and the theme for this year is Bring Your Sparkle to the Winter Wonderland. The cost is \$25 per person and we need to have those reservations in by November 17th so that we can get the head count for the food. I have included the flyer in this newsletter, but as always if there are any questions, please just give me a call.





GATEWAY GTO CHRISTMAS PARTY
Bring Your Sparkle to the Winter Wonderland

DECEMBER 9, 2023 5-10PM

BRING A "ROB YOUR NEIGHBOR" GIFT (\$20-\$30)

Webster Groves Barn

1155 South Rock Hill Road

Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

Buffet Meal, BYOB, \$25 per person, \$50 per couple

For Reservations send a check by November 17th to:

Will Bowers

Official Gateway GTO Officer Nomination Form For 2023

This is the official Nominations form that must be filled out and Mailed or
Emailed to Will Bowers.

Only this form will be accepted.

President

Vice President – MO

Vice President – IL

Treasurer

Secretary

GTOAA Chapter Rep

ONLY ONE VOTE PER MEMBER PLEASE

MAIL OR EMAIL TO:

**Will Bowers
4213 Napa View Lane
St. Charles, MO 63304
WWBDSB@YAHOO.COM**

PLEASE PRINT THIS PAGE



Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



Minutes 10/5/2023

7:04 PM – Meeting Start – New members Dave Stafford and Greg Wolters. Lynn Johnson was in attendance as well.

7:05 – Old Business

Chris Winslow talked about the Wheels in Motion show. We were able to raise just under \$3700 for the NCCS, mostly thanks to Earl Lewis and all of his footwork. He raised \$2100 before the event and another \$600 at the show. We made the rest from the raffle.

The Pontiac Regional went well despite the bad weather that caused low attendance on Sunday (106 cars). The BBQ at the Finkenbinder’s and the cruise were excellent. We raised over \$3000. We received a “Thank You” plaque that is now on display at the museum. During the cruise, we had one car break down at the hot rod shop, they were able to get them back up and running. The date for next years event will be September 20th-22nd.

The winery cruise was fun but lightly attended, possibly due to the last minute planning. Chris suggested maybe holding another one near the end of October.

Marty Howard talked about the Superstars N Supercars show. He said that there were only 25-30 cars in attendance, but a local Lamborghini club showed up with some beautiful machines. He didn’t see very many kids at the event.

The club picnic was great. We had 40 people in attendance with quite a few GTOs. The food was excellent as usual. Thanks to the chefs Tony Bezzone, Rich Vie and Andrew O’Sullivan. The weather was perfect. At the washer tournament we tried out the new boxes. The surface was a little bouncy even though they had carpet and padding installed. The winning team was Sue Vie and new member Greg Wolters.

7:15 – New Business

John Grissom talked about his GTO Family Fest that is being held on October 7th. There will be a group meeting at the Schott’s residence at around 7:30AM, heading out at 8:00AM.

Chris Winslow talked about the Collector Car Trivia Night at the American Legion Hall in St. Charles. Gateway is planning on having two tables at the event. Entry is \$20 per person.

Chris talked about the Frisco Hills Auto Body 50th Anniversary Cruise. It is being held on October 21st from 1-5PM.

Marty Howard gauged interest in holding a second winery cruise and attempted to set a date. No resolution was found. He was aiming for the last week-end in October. If anyone is interested, please let him know and he will set it up.

Chris Winslow talked about officer nominations. Please submit all nominations before the end of October. The ballot will be in the November newsletter and the results will be announced at the Christmas party.

7:32 – Upcoming Events

12/9 – Gateway GTO Christmas Party at the Webster Barn. It will be \$25 per person. Please RSVP by the 17th.

Date TBD – Gateway Pizza Party. No date is set, but it will be in early January and be held at Crusoe’s (same location as last year).

7:34 – GTOAA

John Johnson talked about some of the activities that are planned for the 2024 Nationals in Springfield, MO. There will be two separate Route 66 cruises that will be limited to around 25 cars each. There will also be a bus tour that will take people to the Titanic exhibit and Dolly’s Dixie Stampede in Branson. There will be a drag racing event on the Saturday for \$30 per car (\$15 for spectators). Linda Vaughn will be at the show. Early next year we will begin assigning club members to volunteer positions.

7:42 – Tech

Marty Howard upgraded the stereo in his car and has offered help to anyone who would like to do the same.

7:44 – Club Personals

Darrel May is recovering from a hernia operation.

Tootie May had some skin cancer removed from her arm.

Saundra Melrose is improving

John Havens is feeling better after finding a new treatment.

John Grissom had a triple hernia surgery and is feeling much better.

Lynn Johnson’s GTO is back on the road and he is looking for replacement seat belts in black.

7:48 – Motion to Adjourn by Paula Winslow, seconded by John Johnson.

50/50 of \$38 won by Sharon Wildebrandt



Grissom Family Farm Event



Grissom Family Farm Event
By
Chris Winslow



After months of waiting, the weekend for the Grissom Family Farm Event finally arrived. John had been telling us about this event at our monthly meetings and we were all looking forward to it.

Paula and I started off meeting up at the Schott's house along with the Oxlers, the Vies, and the Bowers. All of us were in GTOs except for Will and Donna. Will was having some issues with his GTOs and instead brought their Camaro convertible.





Grissom Family Farm Event



After some donuts and juice and coffee at the Schotts, we headed to the Cuba Visitors Center to meet up with the rest of the Gateway folks attending the event. From the visitors center we headed out and cruised scenic roads from Cuba to Steelville. In Steelville we saw several historic murals on buildings. After that, we regrouped and left Steelville on a cruise to Salem. Both of these cruise legs had great scenery and everyone really enjoyed the drive.

Once we got to Salem, a number of us checked in at the Crossroads Inn and Suites. John had arranged a special rate for the club and the hotel itself was really nice. They rolled out the welcome wagon for us on their sign out front.



After that quick stop in town, we traveled a few more miles to John's farm. The farm itself is a large piece of property with a house and a few other building on it. John has cows on the farm in fields near the house. Much of the rest of the farm is largely undisturbed woods.

First up John and Chris served up an awesome lunch of burgers and hot dogs and all kinds of sides and desserts. All of us attending had also brought food to add to the feast.

After lunch, a number of us took drives on the ATVs to see the rest of the property. Ron and Sharon Wildebrandt had brought their two ATVs to add to the ATV and other off road vehicles John already had on the farm, so there were plenty of vehicles for cruising the sights. I took a number of trips and was amazed at how much property John has attached to his farm.

The day had turned out to be a really nice early fall weekend so in between trips around the property we circled up the chairs and socialized near one of the outbuildings.



As the afternoon started to turn into early evening, John and Chris were at it again. John got to work frying chicken wings while Chris got to work in the kitchen making other dishes. Barb Lewis also joined in making a huge pot of chili.

John had planned this event largely to recognize Earl Lewis and all that he does for Gateway GTO, the National Childrens Cancer Society, and other organizations we all support. In recognition of that, Earl was presented with a custom 50/50 shirt and also a sign recognizing his 1967 GTO.



Grissom Family Farm Event

After dinner, we all settled around the bonfire for a while before everyone turned in for the night. Some of us headed back to the hotel. Barb and Earl stayed in the farmhouse with Chris and John and some of the others camped on the farm.



The next morning we all returned to the farm for a huge breakfast of eggs, ham, sausage, bacon and, of course, biscuits and gravy.



Grissom Family Farm Event

After that full breakfast, all of us headed home. Everyone had a really great time. Hopefully we can do it again next year, but maybe in a way that it is not so much work for gracious hosts, John and Chris!



Deputy Kunze 1966 GTO Reveal

Officer Kunze 1966 GTO Reveal By Chris Winslow

As we have discussed several times at our monthly meetings, Deputy Robert Kunze III was an officer who was killed in the line of duty on September 16th, 2018 when he was shot by a suspect in Sedgwick County, Kansas.

At the time of his tragic death, Deputy Kunze owned a 1966 GTO that he was planning to restore. After his passing, our sister GTOAA Chapter, the GR-RRR8'R Wichita GTO Club, decided to take on the project of completing the restoration so that the car could be presented to Deputy Kunze's daughter, Alyssa Kunze.

This project was a huge undertaking. From discussions that I have had with both Tom and Sam Nance, this car needed a lot of work when they took on the project. There was no engine or transmission, there were lots of missing parts and much of what was there needed a lot of work. None the less, the Wichita club went to work. They held multiple car shows and other fund raisers to raise money. In addition, many members donated parts from their own parts stashes (including an engine and transmission). Many people and businesses from the local community and also national Pontiac community stepped in to help with parts and services.

Their home base for this project was a place in Wichita called the Shift Auto Society. This was a former Lincoln Dealership building built in the 1940s that had been turned into a collector car owners paradise. Not only have all of the old services bays on 2 levels been turned into storage for collector cars, but there is a full service bay with a 2 post lift, a wash bay, and even a paint booth. The owner of this facility allowed the club to use this facility as their base of operations at no charge.

After years and countless hours of work, the GTO's restoration was complete, so a reveal was scheduled at the Shift Auto Society for October 14th. Paula and I were given the opportunity to represent GTOAA and also Gateway GTO at the event, so we loaded that morning and made the drive to Wichita.



Deputy Kunze 1966 GTO Reveal

We were unprepared for just how nice of a facility the Shift Auto Society really was. We got there early enough that we were able to tour all of the service bays and even the upstairs area, which had been turned into a bar along with a board room style meeting room.

One nice touch for the event itself was that the Sedgwick County Sheriffs Department brought Officer Kunze's police cruiser to the event and had it on display for the attendees to see.

Of course, the main event was the reveal. In the build up to the reveal, members of the Wichita club took turns recognizing everyone locally and nationally that had participated in the efforts to restore the car. The list was long and hopefully will be part of a story on the car in *The Legend* soon.



When the car was revealed, it did not disappoint. The restoration was flawless. The car was perfect inside and out (and I am told underneath as well).

They had generally restored the car to factory original condition in most areas. There were, however, a few details that make this car a truly unique tribute to Deputy Kunze. First is the pin striping. Normal pin striping for a 1966 is a single stripe. In this case, their plan was to have a single stripe, but in two colors. The upper color was to be black and the lower color to be blue as a tribute to Officer Kunze. As it turns out, when the pin striper added the blue stripe, he left a space between the blue stripe and the black stripe. This was not what had been planned, but once everyone saw it, they agreed that this really set off the blue stripe and so they did not change it.

Another area was the vacuum gauge. For this detail they had the bezel of the gauge engraved with Deputy Kunze's name and badge number.

Deputy Kunze 1966 GTO Reveal

The tribute that I thought was the most meaningful was on the inside of the deck lid. There, they had painted these words that were taken from a speech Alyssa Kunze made at her father's funeral in 2018: *"My dad was a Hero. He protected everyone"*.



The magnitude of what the GR-RRR8'R Wichita GTO Club achieved with this restoration cannot be overstated. Paula and I felt honored to be present when the club presented the car to Alyssa.

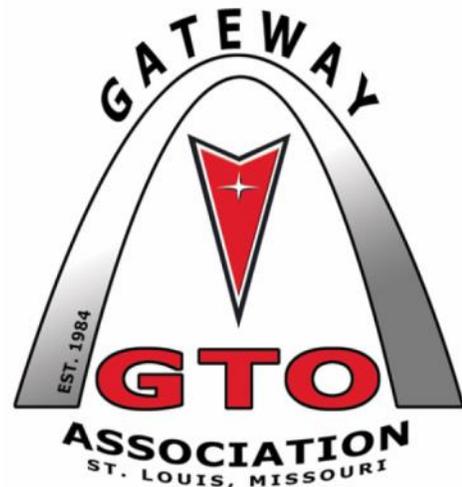


Gateway GTO Membership Renewal

Gateway GTO Dues for 2024 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:**

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 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 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.
- 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



2023 GATEWAY GTO
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

7 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

December

9 - Gateway GTO Annual Christmas Party at Webster Barn

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds

Wanted - Black Seat Belts for a 1969 GTO - (JJ's brother)

For Sale - 1969 GTO



For Sale - 1969 GTO



For Sale - 1969 GTO



69 GTO Numbers matching 400 four speed

All original metal

No rust.

49000 mi

\$39500 obo

314 882 7709

(314) 838-5533

Jon's Tri-Power Service

Jon F. Havens
Owner

126 Afshari Drive
Florissant, MO 63034
jfhavens@sbcglobal.net

(314) 496-7368

Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.
Florissant, MO 63034

Lewis Insurance Agency
W Earl Lewis
LUTCF, CIC, CSP, CSG
636-219-4932
Welewis1949@gmail.com

The
HAGERTY
Guy

A photograph of a red classic car with its hood open, showing the engine compartment.

CustomAutoApparel.com

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



GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Chris Winslow
644 Emge Road
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-294-8104
chriswinslow@charter.net

Vice President II.

Dan Jackson
P.O. Box 234
Greenville, IL 62246
618-664-0437
dajalj@gmail.com

Secretary

Amy O'Sullivan
2576 Westrick Drive
Maryland Heights MO 63043
314-225-7241
pooky1891@gmail.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

Brian O'Sullivan
2576 Westrick Drive
Maryland Heights MO 63043
314-225-7240

bosullivan@hunter.com

Treasurer

Will Bowers
4213 Napa View Lane
St. Charles, MO 63304
618-791-3110

wvbdsb@yahoo.com

GTOAA Chapter Rep.

Tom Oxler
450 Muirfield Drive
St. Charles, MO 63304
636-928-5548

toxler@prodigy.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 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

Visit us at
www.gatewaygto.org or
www.gatewaygto.com

644 Emge Road
O'Fallon, MO 63366

