



GTOAA 2026



2026 GTOAA Nationals

by Chris Winslow



For 2026, we were in Loveland, Colorado for the GTOAA Nationals. A lot of the Gateway Gang took part in the 2 day cruise starting in Hannibal led by Tom and Terrie Oxler. As you can see from the photo above, Gateway had a major presence. By my count, we had at least 40 total people there over the course of the convention week.

The registration got underway on schedule on Tuesday morning. Despite the fact that Gateway was not the host chapter for 2026, Gateway members Diana Johnson and Paula Winslow were busy Tuesday morning working with other GTOAA folks to keep the registration process running smoothly.

The two car shows, the Points Judged Show and the Popular Vote Show went off without a hitch. In addition, there were a number of well attended events during the week including a drive in, a tour of the Stanley Hotel, and the Humbler commercial recreation. There were also some great speakers. These included Thom Sherwood and Jay Fitzsimmons.

One of the most important events for the week was a memorial service for Beth Butcher. Bob Alexander had brought in her beloved Judge for a special display for the occasion. Randy Pribyl conducted the service and several other GTOAA members spoke of their memories of Beth both in terms of all she did in support of the GTOAA and also her friendship and support over the years. The event was very well attended and a fitting tribute to all of Beth's many



years of service and fellowship.

Of course, the finale for the week was the awards banquet. The first part of the awards program was pretty standard with GTOAA president John Johnson thanking everyone that helped to make the convention a success. We then moved into the chapters section of the program with GTOAA Chapter



Coordinator Bill Sanders presenting. First up was disappointment as we learned that once again we did not win the Chapter of the Year Award. But, then came the presentation of the Tom Foster Award. For this year, there were two winners. Bill announced them in reverse alphabetical order. The second winner was our own Terry Schott in recognition of all he does for the club and all of its members. Seeing Terry

get that award was the highlight of the week for me.

Next up in the program was the Popular Vote awards. As was the case last year, Lucas Hedrick and Bryan Johnson did the presentations to the winners.. Like we did in 2025, members voted on their favorites and then Bryan and Lucas totaled up the ballots. There were 10 cars that won Members Choice awards and then there were cars that won for their specific year.

For the members choice, there were three Gateway Members that won. The Beasley's won with their 1964 LeMans, the Hedricks won with their 1967 GTO, and Harry Timmerman won with his 1965 LeMans convertible.

In the year awards by year, Gateway picked up five additional awards. The Ray's won the Post 1980's Pontiac award with their 2009 G8 GXP, the Chapmans won with their 1970 GTO, the Vie's won with their 1974 GTO, Joe Mayweather won with his 2004 GTO, and the Finkenbinders won with their 2006 GTO.

Lucas and Bryan did a great job with the program and like last year, they were very entertaining while handing out the awards, so it was a lot of fun all the way around.

For the Concours show this year, Gateway only had one entry. It was Bob Alexander in his 2006 GTO. His car was awarded Gold!

Overall Gateway did quite well with 8 popular vote awards, 1 Concours Gold and, of course, the big one for the evening, the Tom Foster for Terry! It was a great showing for 2026.







