THE HOOD SCOOP

September 2026

15th Annual Car Show at the Pontiac Museum

by **Chris Winslow**



This was a very special year for our annual All Pontiac Show at the Pontiac Museum. First, it was our 15th consecutive annual show at the museum. Not even Covid caused us to miss a year. In addition to that, however, 2026 is also the 100th anniversary of both Pontiac and Route 66. So, for 2026 the goal was to pull it all together for a great event.

For this year our plans included a few things to tie it in to the anniversaries. For the anniversary of Pontiac, we arranged for the City of Pontiac to put up a tent where we could have a display of cars showcasing the history of Pontiac. The display included a really nice example of a 1976 Grand Prix owned by Mike Van Wiltenburg and the last Pontiac ever made, a 2010 G6 that is part of the museums collection. That last Pontiac includes signatures of the worker that ushered down the assembly line. These were the last people to build a Pontiac, so it is certainly a piece of history.

For the anniversary of Route 66, I was able to get our show recognized as an official event for the Route 66 Centennial Celebration. Additionally, Alan Finkenbinder and Dave Sullivan planned our Saturday cruise from Pontiac to Atlanta on Route 66.

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We kicked off the event with a Bar B Q at the Finkenbinder's house. It was a super event as always with lots of great food and great company. For this year, we were even treated to an amazing fireworks show. So amazing, in fact, that the local police even stopped by to see it!

As always, the weekend officially got underway on Saturday morning. As has become the case every year, the City of Pontiac had everything ready to go for us out front when we rolled up on the Museum. They also had boxes of goody bags that they had prepared ready to go, including the dash plaques and ballots that Terry and Gail had previously delivered. In addition, for this special year, Gateway had arranged to have Route 66 Anniversary pins in the bags along with Pontiac Anniversary stickers from the Pontiac Museum. The dash plaques also had anniversary logos on them to carry through on the theme.

Registration got underway early with help from Paula and Marlene Grunewaldt and we had a brisk pace early.

The first activity for the event is always the car cruise. Alan and Dave had arranged for the town of Atlanta to shut down the streets near the Giants Museum for our cruise destination. Although it had rained a bit in the morning before the cruise pulled out, once the cruise was underway, the weather held off and we were able to get it in without any rain to spoil it.

The Giants Museum itself had some really cool giants inside and out and there were some other giants around the town. The local restaurants were ready for us so everyone had a great lunch while checking out all of the giants and other sights to see in Atlanta.

Of course, the main event is the big car show on Sunday. We had hoped for a huge

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turnout given it was the anniversary year and how much we had promoted the show. These hopes were bolstered by the fact I had rolled into Pontiac on Friday with 27 pre-registrations. (I normally have around 10 or 12). We had also received word that a cruise was planned from the Chicago area down to Pontiac early on Sunday. In hopes of having a big rush, we had registration open early with help from Paula and Gail Schott.

But, unfortunately, the weather had other ideas. It rained off and on during the morning, which apparently caused those cruises from the north not to happen. The rain did eventually let up for a while late in the morning, but by then the damage was done. We ended up closing registration on schedule at noon with a total of 100 cars registered.

With the registration complete, Tammy Hedrick worked her magic with the registration sheets and generated tabulation sheets for the tabbing team. Shortly thereafter, a group of Gateway and Heart of Illinois members got tabulation underway.

In the mean time Susan and Dot from the HOI club with help from Danny Beasley got to work selling 50/50 tickets. Despite threatening weather on the way, they were able to raise $298 for the museum with their efforts.

As the skies continued to look worse, Brian Sorenson wrapped up the tabulating right on time and we got the awards program started at 2:00 hoping to get it in before the weather cut loose. Unfortunately, that did not happen. Just a few minutes into the awards presentations, the rain let loose and it was a lot more than a sprinkle. Terry Schott ended up soaked delivering trophies to the winners.

Gateway members did take home a number of awards. Mark Melrose took home the Kids Pick trophy for his 2006 GTO. Here are the other awards for Gateway members

Roger Johnson	1st Place for Class 1, 1964 GTO
Julie Beasley	2nd Place for Class 1, 1964 GTO
Dale Grunewaldt	1st Place for Class 4, 1967 GTO
Mark and Jackie Enright	1st Place for Class 6, 1969 GTO
Dan Finkenbinder	3rd Place for Class 6, 1969 GTO
Alan Finkenbinder	2nd Place for Class 7, 1970-74 GTO
Michael Fogarty	3rd Place for Class 7, 1970-74 GTO
Joe Mayweather	2nd Place for Class 8, 2004 GTO
Harry Timmerman	1st Place for Class10, 1961-73 Tempest
Jim and Shelly Schneider	2nd Place for Class 23, 1966-80 Pontiac/GMC
Steve Hedrick	3rd Place for Class 24, 1981-2010 Pontiac/GMC

Once the dust settled on the event we were able to raise a total of $3000 for our donation to the Museum for 2026. Thanks to all of the members of Gateway that helped us pull off this event under some challenging weather conditions!

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Presidents Scoop

The President's Scoop

By Chris Winslow

As it always is, September was a busy month for Gateway with two big car shows on consecutive weekends. First up was the fall Wheels In Motion Car Show at the Church on the Rock. For this one we were blessed with a dry day, although it was somewhat hot for September. Several of us took turns covering the gate for the event. The total number of cars that we checked in was 96. In addition Earl performed his 50/50 magic and ended up raising $371. Earl also rounded up an additional $800 for the NCCS in private donations. Finally, Gateway members kicked in personal donations that added up to $900. All told, the event raised $4961.

The second big show was our annual car show at the Pontiac Museum. As noted in the article in this newsletter, the weather was not as kind to us for that weekend, although we did still manage to raise a total of $3000 for the Pontiac Museum. In addition, a number of Gateway members took home trophies.

We have some great October activities on the books. First up will be the Wheels and Wishes car show on October 10th. That show is organized by Jerry from Top Stitch with all proceeds going to the Make A Wish foundation. Jerry has asked us to supply 5 people to help with parking and the gate during the event so it would great if some of you that are going to attend the show would also help out. I have included the flyer with more details in this newsletter.

Also in October, make sure you have your calendars marked for our Gateway GTO picnic on October 11th. We will once again be at Vago park thanks to Tony Bezzole reserving it for us for the day. As usual the club will provide the meat (burgers, dogs, brats, pork steaks, chicken) and we ask everyone to bring side dishes and desserts to share.

Finally, Marty has found that Anita Rosamont is going to be playing at Montelle on October 25th so we will be planning that for our annual winery run.



Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes

Minutes 9/3/26

7:02 PM – Meeting Start
Brett Klein from St. Charles is a new member.

7:03 PM – Old Business

Chris Winslow talked about the Officer Cody Allen Memorial Car Show in Independence Missouri. It was organized by Robert Woolsey, a Gateway member. Approximately 300 cars on the show field, with over 200 registered. All proceeds went to Answering the Call 911 for first responders.

7:05 PM – New Business and Upcoming Events

Chris talked about the upcoming Wheels in Motion on September 12th at the Church on the Rock. For 2026, we are not doing a raffle. We ask that the members make individual donations instead of gathering donation items. We need some members to take money and directing the show cars. The registration tent is moving down near the area where the cars come in. Bob Blattel will be doing some magic shows again.

Chris talked about the All Pontiac Show at the Pontiac Museum from September 18th to 20th. We received word that the hotels are sold out. We are planning for lunch at Cracker Barrel on Troy Il at 11:00 am on Friday the 18th and then cruise to Pontiac starting at noon.

There is a BBQ planned at Finkenbinder's on Friday night, with a fireworks show to follow. We need to get a head count for the BBQ so they know how much meat to buy.

This show should have a really big turnout. We already have 20 pre-registered.
Also, Tom Prendergast from the Cruisin' Tigers is organizing a cruise down on Sunday.

We will need help with registration on Saturday and Sunday and parking on Sunday. We will also need help with the popular vote tabulation on Sunday.
We may also need help setting up the balloons.

Chris asked Marty Howard to talk about his 81st birthday party at Atomic Pinball on September 13th. The time changed to 3:00 – 7:00 pm.

Chris mentioned that there will be an Octoberfest car show in St. Charles on September 27th. Stock cars only, age 25 years or older.

Chris talked about the Wheels and Wishes car show being held on October 10th at Calvary church in Cottleville. This show is being held in conjunction with Top Stitch upholstery shop. We will need some help with taking the money at the gate and parking cars. Flyers are available.

Chris mentioned that the Gateway picnic will be held on October 11th at Vago park in Maryland Heights.

Chris mentioned the Props & Pistons/Cars & Creepies event at Spirit of St. Louis Airport on October 17th. Flyers are available.

Chris mentioned the Olds Trivia Night on November 7th in St. Charles. Flyers are available.

Earl mentioned that there are car shows on Wednesdays from 10 am to 2:00 pm at Lakeside 370 park in St. Peters.

7:24 PM – GTOAA

Chris talked about the upcoming National Convention in Kentucky in 2027. Steve Hedrick mentioned that the GTOAA website is in the process of being updated.

7:30 – TECH

Joe Mayweather mentioned that his car is fixed. Earl Lewis talked about Barb's Vauxhall had an issue with the instrument panel. Terry Schott mentioned that his lift is installed and working. Danny Beasley talked about a possible leak in his transmission. John Grissom mentioned that he bought another GTO.

8:09 – PERSONALS

Chris talked about Tootie May recovering from a slight fall and broken ribs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 after a motion by Tom Fox and a second by Jim Schneider.

50/50 of $39 dollars was won by Paula Winslow.

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

Gateway GTO
Membership Renewal

Gateway GTO Dues for 2026 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

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 Steve Hedrick with any questions:

Steve Hedrick Contact Info:
Phone: 314-640-4020
Email: sthedrick@aol.com



TOP STITCH INTERIORS PRESENTS

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Wheels & Wishes™

PREMIER CAR EVENT

October 10, 2026
8 am - 3 pm
Parade to follow!
Rain Out Date 10/17/26

$25 Pre-Registration
$30 After 9/1/26

1st 100 Pre-Registered receive a goodie bag + dash plaque!

Music
Food Trucks
Attendance Prizes

Classics/Custom Cars/Rat Rods
Exotic/European/Import Cars
Truck/Golf Carts/Motorcycles

Calvary Church 3998 Mid Rivers Mall Dr St. Peters, MO 63376
Contact Jerry 314-608-9636 / Ron 314-503-8228 / Tom 314-915-2144

Pre-Registration until 9/1/26 **PRE-REGISTRATION FORM** (NO REFUNDS)

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Class: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: Wheels and Wishes / 449 Weiss Road, St. Peters, MO 63376
We are a 501(c)(3). Tax ID # 41-3433919

Visit us on Facebook @ WheelsandWishes

GATEWAY GTO 2026 Fall Colors Wine Cruise – Sunday, Oct. 25

Meet at Francis Howell High School
7001 MO-94, St. Charles 63304
@ 10:00 a.m. – Depart promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Anita Rosamont Performs at Montelle Winery – 1-5 p.m.
201 Montelle Dr., Augusta, MO 63332





TRIVIA NIGHT

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BENEFITING THE GREATER ST. LOUIS HONOR FLIGHT & DUO DOGS, ASSISTANCE DOGS

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$160.00 PER TABLE OF 8

$20.00 PER INDIVIDUAL

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MUST BE 21 YEARS +

Make checks payable to Archway Olds Club and send in with your name, phone number, email and return address to:
Trivia Night • PO Box 510892, St. Louis, MO 63151
Questions? (314) 497-0798

HOSTED BY THE ARCHWAY OLDSMOBILE CLUB

Archway Olds Club
ESTABLISHED 1978
ST. LOUIS

PRE-REGISTER BY OCTOBER 30, 2026

2026 GATEWAY GTO
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

3 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

12 - Fall Wheels In Motion Car Show

18-20 - All Pontiac Show at the Pontiac Museum

October

1 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

10 - Wheels and Wishes Car Show at Calvary Church in St. Peters - Need 5 volunteers to help with parking

11 - Gateway GTO Picnic at Vago Park

25 - Gateway GTO Winery Run

November

5 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

7– Archway Olds Club Trivia Night

December

5 - Gateway GTO Christmas Party

Gateway GTO Classifieds





(314) 496-7368

Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.
Florissant, MO 63034

(314) 838-5533

Jon's Tri-Power Service

Jon F. Havens
Owner

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



Gateway GTO Club Store

GATEWAY GTO
1984-2024
GTO
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EST. 1984
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GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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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.

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.

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



