

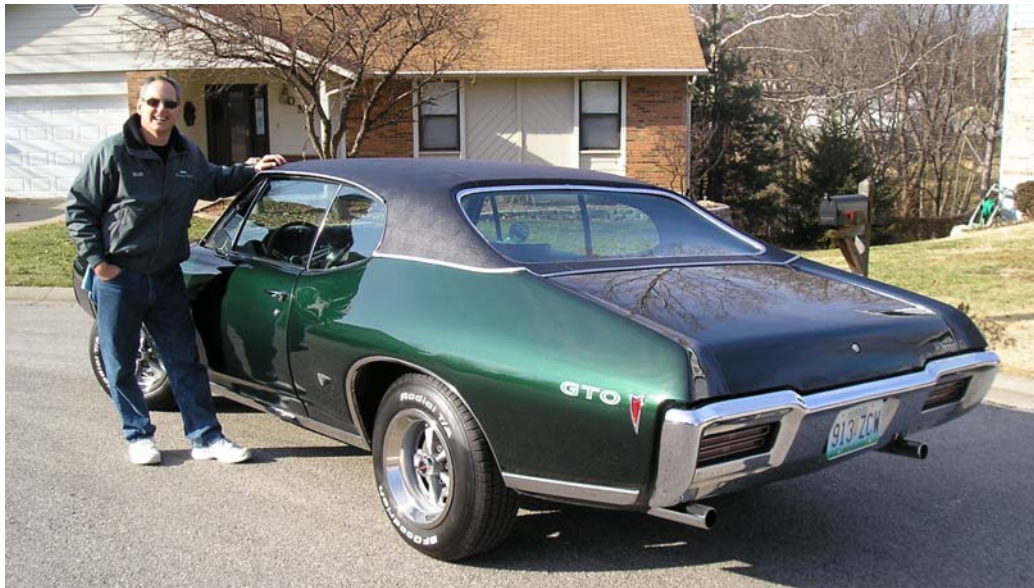


THE HOOD SCOOP

November 2013

GTO of the Month My GTO

Gateway GTO
Association



Hello, my name is Bob Blattel and I have been a member of the GTO club for about three years. I've lived in the St. Charles area for about 30 years. My wife Chris and I raised four children, two boys and two girls with our youngest starting his first year at Iowa State.

I enjoy hobbies that include magic, astronomy, model trains, independent movies, old board game collecting and last, but not least, muscle cars. While growing up in north St. Louis, I did not own any cool cars. My first car was actually a 6-cylinder 1963 Chevrolet Bel Air with a three on the tree shifter. The car was in pretty poor shape.

The thought of owning a muscle car as an adult never crossed my mind until my birthday in September of 2005. My wife suggested renting a classic car for a day. I'm not really a car guy, so I got on the internet and found a web site called, "Classic Cars Plus." They rented classic cars! I decided that coolest car they had was a 1968 Pontiac GTO. I



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arranged to rent the car and looked forward to my birthday cruise.

The big day arrived and my first experience with the rented GTO was to make sure I could handle the 4-speed floor shifter. After a short trial run, I was off. My excitement level was off the chart. I drove to everyone's house I knew to show off the GTO. The sound of the 4 barrel kicking in was music to my ears. I drove and drove and drove. I was most definitely hooked. The next day, as I drove the GTO back, I felt a sense of let down.

Well, I started doing some research on the internet about the costs of purchasing a 1968 or 1969 GTO. I ran into a web site called, "Gateway GTO" and noticed one of people listed was Terri Oxler, who happened to live a short distance away from me. She and her husband Tom invited me to GTO club meeting. I decided to join the club even though I didn't own a GTO or a Pontiac car. Mark Melrose and Tom Oxler were especially helpful with ideas on purchasing a GTO. Mark kept emailing me info on what to look for. Will Bower also added helpful advice. They kept me excited and hopeful.

After a few disappointments, I found a 1968 GTO at Holt Auto near Lansing, Michigan. It was delivered to me shortly thereafter and the rest is history.

This past winter and spring some modifications were made under the hood and to the rear of the car. My mechanic, Randy Bardle, found a 428 engine he thought I needed. Between Randy and Bob Stiegemeier, the 428 was re-worked with forged pistons, roller rockers, different heads and a Ram Air exhaust manifold. A MSD electric system was installed along with a Stiegemeier racing carb and an Optima battery. Randy took out the rear end (not a GTO rear end) and installed a w30 rear end from an Olds 442. The car sits and rides better and the modifications also allowed for wider tires in the back.

I enjoy the GTO club because of all the friends that I have made and it's just a neat place to hang out. Thanks for putting up with me!

PS. I now own 3 Pontiacs: 1968 GTO, 1976 Trans Am and a 2000 6-speed Formula Firehawk. Maybe now I'm a car guy!





Presidents Scoop

The Presidents Scoop By Mark Melrose

It's That Time Again

Every two years it's time to elect Club Officers as dictated by the Club Constitution and By-Laws. Our governing documents also specify a limit of two consecutive terms for the positions of President and Vice-President (MO & IL). Accordingly, and based on nominations received since early September, in the following pages please find the formal election ballot for the slate of 2014-15 Officers. Please note that if you had nominated an individual whose name does not appear on the ballot it is because that individual declined to become a candidate. A declined candidacy should in no way be construed as a lack of commitment to the Club. Rather it is typically the result of a high level of satisfaction and confidence in the incumbents and new nominees. It is not that nominees are reluctant to serve, but that they defer to those that have indicated a strong desire to fill a position. This speaks volumes as to the general cohesion of the membership. While all 2014-15 candidates are running unopposed, please take time to print the ballot, cast your votes and submit them to Will Bowers. The new slate of officers will be formally confirmed at the Christmas Party on December 14th.

Speaking of the Christmas Party, we are planning a new twist on the Rob-Your-Neighbor gift swap and Gateway GTO's version of *Family Feud* – "Club Member Feud". Apologies to those whose ears have stopped ringing and will miss last year's Christmas Carol Whistles. This promises to be great fun so please get your reservation checks in to Will Bowers by November 30th.

We are also in the process of finalizing the Club Pizza Party for January 12th at Pirrone's Pizza in Florissant – more details will follow.

Please accept my very best wishes to you for a most happy and healthy Holiday Season.

For other upcoming area car shows & cruises see <http://clubs.hemmings.com/lakerscarclub/>



Official 2014 Gateway GTO Officer Ballot Form

The candidates below have been nominated as Officers for the 2014-15 term in accordance with the Club Constitution and By-Laws. Please print this page and vote for one candidate for each office. Only this form will be accepted and only if it is received by December 1, 2013.

President: Kerry Friedman

Vice-President (MO): Terry Schott

Vice-President (IL): Frank Chapman

Treasurer: Will Bowers

Secretary: Brian O'Sullivan

GTOAA Chapter Rep: Steve Hedrick

ONLY ONE BALLOT PER MEMBER PLEASE

Mail To: Will Bowers
1 Goshen Woods
Edwardsville, IL 62025



Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



GGTOA Minutes: 11/6/2013

7:06PM – Meeting Start – New Member Scott Hudler present at meeting. He lives in Pennsylvania but travels through St. Louis frequently. He has two Judges. Bob Barks and John Johnson also in attendance.

7:13 – Discussion on election process. New officers will be announced at the Christmas party. This will be the last consecutive term for Mark Melrose, Kerry Friedman and Darrell May.

7:15 – Discussion of First Responder show. Next year's show will be held earlier in the season to help increase attendance. Kerry thanked everyone from the club for their support at this year's show.

7:17 – Wine Cruise was excellent and again had great weather. Nearly 20 cars participated.

7:19 – Bob Blattel informed everyone about the St. Theresa and Bridget Church annual Holiday Magic Toy drive. It helps families in need to get Christmas gifts for their children. Contact Bob Blattel or Tom Oxler if you are interested in donating any items. The drive runs from 11/1 - 12/6.

7:27 – 12/14/13 Club Christmas Party, 1/12/14 Pizza party at Pirrone's located at 1775 Washington St. Florissant MO.

7:29 – Tom Oxler spoke about the GTOAA Nationals and changes to the club store.

7:32 – Tech Session – Tom Oxler said that the Schaeffer's grease worked excellent on his steering mechanics. Marty had a temperature gauge problem in his GTO. The needle broke off so he's having the clock repaired. He has opted to have them change the internals back to factory style.

7:39 – Mark Melrose presented a letter re-

ceived from Moline Acres. It was thanking all who participated in the parade for Moline Acres Day.

7:41 – Chris Simmons talked about paint issues. Shauna's motor is totaled. The block appears to be ok, so she is going to use it to do a 402 build. Brian O'Sullivan talked about a radiator issue where the driver's side tank blew out.

7:51 – Motion to adjourn by Brian O'Sullivan, seconded by Tod Liebel.

50/50 of \$38 won by Andrew O'Sullivan



Wine and Friends

Montelle Winery – November 3, 2013

By Terrie Oxler

A brisk, sunny morning greeted Gateway GTO members as we gathered at the parking lot of Francis Howell High School for our annual autumn drive to Montelle Winery in Augusta, Missouri. Nine GTOs and 2 Trans Ams cruised on Highway 94 to our destination. The



group immediately staked out our standard club spot and enjoyed the spectacular views from the deck and the ordering of wine and food began. Ewan Bird (the Melbroses

Gateway GTO Activities



grandson) and his mother joined the festivities. They were with us last year – my how he has grown! We were also treated to music by Arwel and Dawn and he serenaded the GTO Club with Little GTO. There was lots of dancing as the afternoon wore on and as the sun set and chilly air set in, the members drove away in the sunset.



Gateway GTO Activities





NEW AGE GTO CONCOURS PROJECT

The GTO Association of America has initiated a project to create a set of photo records on the 2004 to 2006 GTO in anticipation of a time in the future when these cars will participate in the annual GTO Association of America Concours car show.

Gateway GTO has been chosen as the chapter to assemble these photo documentaries.

The project requires six **BONE STOCK** new age GTO's - One manual transmission and one automatic transmission car from each model year.

Ground Rules for Eligible Cars:


- Car must be bone stock with NO aftermarket parts or modifications. The only exceptions are batteries and tires.
- Factory parts, such as the sports appearance package and 18 inch wheels, are allowed.
- All parts the car was originally supplied with, such as the spoiler, must be installed. (Exception: Parts removed to install other factory parts such as the sports appearance package or 18" wheels.)

Once the cars are identified, a photo session will be scheduled.

If your car meets the requirements of the ground rules and you are interested in participating, please contact Chris Winslow.

**This is your chance to make your GTO the standard
against which all new age GTO's will be judged!**

Still looking for a 2005 Automatic Car - All other slots have been filled



Brighter than the lights
on a Christmas tree...

the light in the eyes of a needy
child opening a gift from his
"Secret Santa."

Christmas is a time of joy and magic for us all – but especially for our children as they anxiously await the arrival of December 25th and the presents they whispered in Santa's ear. Sadly, many less-fortunate children in our community never get what they've wished for.

But you can be their Secret Santa!

Blattel & Associates invites you to bring a message of hope to the needy children in our community with a donation of new or gently used, unwrapped toys to our

2013 Holiday Magic Toy Drive November 1 – December 6

Drop-off sites:

Blattel & Associates
1 Mid Rivers Mall Drive, Suite 260
(St. Peters)

U.S. Bank
1 Mid Rivers Mall Drive
(St. Peters)

Nutrition Stop
4101 Mexico Road
(St. Peters)

Cutter & Company
15415 Clayton Road
(Ballwin)

Dudas Fitness
1053 Wolfrum Road
(Weldon Springs)

Rosciglione's Bakery
2265 Bluestone Drive
(St. Charles)

Your donations of new or gently used, unwrapped toys will be distributed to the community at Saints Teresa & Bridget's Church. *Light up the eyes of needy children in our community – drop off your toys today!*



The Christmas Trees Are Up



Gateway GTO Christmas Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2013, 5:30-10:30PM

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

JOIN THE NEW SURPRISES AT THE PARTY

Webster Groves Barn
1155 South Rock Hill Road
Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

Buffet Meal, BYOB, \$15 per person, \$25 per couple

For Reservations send a check by November 30th to:

Will Bowers
#1 Goshen Woods
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Gateway GTO Club Pizza Party

Sunday, January 12, 2014 from 1-5 PM

At Pirrone's Pizza

1775 Washington St, Florissant, MO 63033

About 1 mile north of I-270 off the Washington/Elizabeth exit 314-650-1820

Club furnishes the pizza – drinks, salads, etc. are members' responsibility



Gateway GTO Association Points Submission Form

Member Name _____

Month _____

Club Sponsored Events and Monthly Meetings

Event	With GTO (40 Points)	Without GTO (20 Points)

Total for Club Sponsored Events _____

Non Sponsored Events

Event	With GTO (10 Points)	Without GTO (5 Points)

Total for Non Sponsored Events _____

Other Activities

GTO Regional/National Event	With GTO (100 Points)	Without GTO(70 Points)

- GGTOA Event Worker/Helper (50 Points) _____
- Car Featured as GTO of the Month (50 Points) _____
- Write an Article for *Hood Scoop* (50 Points) _____
- Sign up a new GGTOA member (25 Points) _____
- Have GTO featured in a National Pub (40 Points) _____

Total Points for Month

Submit completed form at GGTOA monthly meeting or to:
 B. O'Sullivan
 10637 St. Phillip Lane
 St. Anne, MO 63074

2013 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

3 – Club Wine Cruise, to Montelle Winery in August, MO. CLUB SPONSORED

6 – Meeting at JJ's. CLUB SPONSORED

December

14 – Club Christmas Party at Hawken House in Webster Groves, MO, details to follow. CLUB SPONSORED

January

12—Gateway GTO Pizza Party at Pirrone's in Florissant, Mo. CLUB SPONSORED

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds

For Sale

#62 Heads - \$150

Contact Tony Bezzole

(314) 737-6534



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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 Wednesday of the month at J. J.'s Restaurant, 1215 S. Duchesne Rd, St. Charles, Mo. 63301.

Membership dues are \$35.00 per year and all renewals are required to be paid by December 31st. You are allowed to have one associate member.

Club Sponsor

2 Locations:

6041 North Lindbergh
Hazelwood, MO 63042
(314) 731-7999

10100 West Florissant
Dellwood, MO 63136
(314) 868-2000

Tow Service:
314-427-8697



**As a Gateway GTO member please consider joining the
GTO Association of America**

**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**

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.

1948 A Sidney Street
St. Louis, MO 63104

