



THE HOOD SCOOP

July 2021

THE 42ND ANNUAL GTOAA NATIONAL CONVENTION

By Gail Schott

Gateway GTO
Association



An Official Chapter of the GTO Association of America



The Chula Vista Resort in the Wisconsin Dells was host to over 230 cars for the 42nd annual GTOAA National Convention. There were cars, cars, and more cars. Whether you drove your car there or trailered it there, the cars were fantastic.

Unfortunately, some of our Gateway people came upon a several hour delay coming into the Dells. There had been a horrific accident on I-39 and it had shut down both north and south bound traffic on the interstate. Needless to say, every other vehicle from the interstate was trying to get around the closure using the same side roads. Frustration abounded, but once getting to Chula Vista and enjoying a cold beverage, things calmed down and fun began.

83 cars had signed up for Concours judging.
119 cars were in Popular Vote.
34 cars were in the Street Legend class, and
3 Original Owners

The Gateway GTO chapter had 43 members in attendance, plus additional kids/grandkids. The best reason to attend a national convention is

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GTOAA National Convention

to meet other GTO enthusiasts and see the friends from previous years' conventions. People from all across the country show up and even though you may only get to see them once a year, you still become close friends. Or... you may only know them for the car that they have! Whether it's the members with the Royal Bobcat, or the G-r-r-reat Judge, you see them year after year and can always have something to talk about.

Thanks to Sharon Wildebrandt, we have info on the Tuesday car cruise to the EAA Aviation Museum.

On Tuesday we took the driving tour to the Aviation Museum in Oshkosh. There were 14 cars: most of them GTO's. The drive was on a 2 lane Hwy through the beautiful countryside of Wisconsin taking about 2 hours to get to our destination. At the Aviation Museum we were given an hour and a half to look through the museum (not near enough time). We hit the large displays of real planes and enjoyed the stories about them. We gathered about noon to head down the road for lunch at TJ's



Harbor Restaurant on Winnebago Lake. While we were there, heavy rain and wind came up. A "Good Samaritan" from our group rolled windows up and got the tops up on the convertibles. We left the restaurant when our tour guides checked their weather apps saying we had a window of clear weather to return to the resort. It was a great afternoon!

The Wisconsin Dells saw some wide swings in temperature and a mix of rain and sunshine. Monday and Tuesday started HOT and HUMID with temps in the 90's. The rain and potential storms predicted for Tuesday evening prompted the much-anticipated river cruise (with "surf & turf" the scheduled meal) to be canceled. With chances of lightning and storms, the boat company felt it best to cancel the cruise portion, keeping safety in mind for their passengers. They did, however, deliver the tasty meal to the hotel and the hotel staff had to make quick arrangements for the banquet room to accommodate those who had signed up for the meal cruise.

With the cruise canceled, we had an evening with nowhere to go and nothing to do. Never fear! The Gateway Gang had perused the complex and came upon a number of patio tables and chairs that no one else seemed to find. But WE did! We gathered, along with several other GTOAA members, just outside the lower indoor concourse area with our snacks and beverages and laughed and talked the night away, all the while watching the heat-lightning light up the evening sky. The predicted rain came later that night and into Wednesday. With the rain, it brought much cooler temperatures! We awoke to low-mid 50's and the need for a light jacket.



The rainy Wednesday forced any outdoor activities, such as at the outdoor waterpark, or walking through the popular vote and street legend cars to be postponed to another day. Some of us took the opportunity to visit the Indoor Waterpark. Let me tell you, that DARK, LONG, STEEP, SCREAMING, TOILET-BOWL, of a waterslide is something else! Some of us came out of it too dizzy to get out of our tubes, and too dizzy to even climb the couple of steps to get out of the pool!

It was a BLAST!



Wednesday was also the Street Legends cruise into the downtown Dells. Per Frank and Cheryl Chapman who attended, it was rather uneventful due to the weather conditions. There were only 7 - 8 cars in the cruise, but the highlight was that there was a police escort! (And it was to designated parking, not the local jail!)

Thursday was the Popular-Vote Day. The parking lot was set up with clearly marked alphabetized stanchions marking the way for the different classes. For the GTO gals that did not prefer to walk the lot and cast ballots, there was a beading class/session. They made beaded necklaces with arrowheads (like a Pontiac arrowhead) as the center focal point of the



necklace, very nice! Others were enthusiastically tabulating the popular votes as they came in and enjoyed a hearty lunch of lasagna.



Thursday evening came and we enjoyed the Ames sponsored “indoor” Parking Lot Party. The hot dogs and burgers helped to fill that empty spot in our tummies. The DJ was a super-fun guy that tried to get everyone involved. He started with all of the kids that were in attendance. He had them on the floor dancing and gyrating to win Dum-Dum lollypops! By the time they were done with The Twist, The Floss, The Macarena, and many

others, each had won a lollypop. Some BIG kids joined them on the floor, too!

We also had a big celebration for several members celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries this year. Gateway members, Tom & Terrie Oxler and Ron & Sharon Wildebrandt celebrated along with fellow GTOAA members, Tom (Tug) & Debby Arzberger from Florida, and Dale & Marlene Gruenwald from South Dakota. The DJ was again keeping the party going by having a special dance just for them. He then asked all other married couples to join them on the floor. He then asked those couples married less than 10, 20, 25, 30, years and so on, to leave the floor anticipating just the 50th anniversary couples to remain. However, Joe and Bev Mayweather had them all “kicked to the curb” by being the longest married couple at **62 years!** Congratulations to Joe & Bev and to everyone! Dancing continued and the night was extremely enjoyable.



Thanks to Brian O’Sullivan for his info on the Friday car cruise.

The Cave of the Mounds/Baraboo Candy Company Cruise

It started promptly at 9:00AM with some beautiful weather to boot. We had 11 cars in attendance including a good mix of old and new GTOs, a Lemans, a G8 and a Yukon bringing up the rear. For the early portion of the cruise, we took a scenic drive through the countryside. We continued through parks and past Devil’s Lake, which was really picturesque.

Our first stop was at the Cave of the Mounds. A large number of the group chose to explore the cave. It was a self-directed tour with guides spread throughout with information about the history of the cave and some of its formations.

After everyone re-grouped, we proceeded to the town of Black Earth to stop for lunch at the Macker-Backer restaurant. We were able to park all of the cars in a row on the street for an excellent photo op.



From there we headed to the Baraboo Candy Company. Unfortunately, we arrived too late for a tour, but the storefront was open for business. They had a ton of excellent confections to choose from. I can attest that their caramel pecan Cow Pies were fantastic.

As we left that location the group split up. Some chose to drive back to the hotel and the rest ventured on to Wisconsin Dells Raceway Park. It is a 1/3rd mile banked oval

track. After we signed a waiver, we were allowed to run on the track as fast as we dared. Most of us ran about a dozen laps before it was time to go. It was a well put together trip and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Since several members that had signed up for the river dinner cruise, that did not happen, they decided to take a river cruise on Friday. The cruise took us to the Upper Dells area and was absolutely beautiful. The boat captain and tour guide were well versed in the area's surroundings and history. It was a 2-hour tour, had 2 stops along the way for exploration and photos, the day was beautifully sun-shiny and gorgeous, and all had a great time. If you ever get the chance, it is a highly recommended excursion.

Friday's Awards Banquet started out with our meal and then memorial tributes to both Steve Ames and Milt Schornack. Unfortunately, the hotel's outdated audio/visual equipment left a lot to be desired. The speakers were either too loud and crackly on one side of the room, or too weak to be heard on the other side. There was some amicable banter back and forth and even an attempt to "sign" the verbiage, that brought a chuckle to the room. Then the visual portion went awry and only the center of the room could see the slides. It was quite the mess, but the GTOAA admin peeps, as always, did their best and carried on. They completed the evening as best they could with the hotel's equipment. As it turned out, several Gateway members came out winners. Some of the awards were anticipated, but one was definitely not expected. We had the following winners:

- Will Bowers, Bronze Award in Concours, for his 1964 convertible
- Frank Chapman, 1st Place Popular Vote, Judges, for his 1970 black Judge
- Earl Lewis, 3rd Place Popular Vote, in Modified, for his 1967 hardtop
- Joe Mayweather, 1st Place, Sr. Models
- Terry Schott, 1st Place Popular Vote, Stock Convertibles, for their 1970 convertible
- Dave Sindelar, 1st Place, Popular Vote, Modified, for his silver 1966 hardtop
- Harry Timmerman, 1st place, Popular Vote, All Other Pontiacs

There were also some "Special" awards handed out that evening.

- Tammy Hedrick, 1st Place for the "Scratch & Dent" division on her Ford Excursion (explanation below*)
- And Ron Wildebrandt, the "Green with Envy" award in Street Legends

The "Scratch & Dent" award, the first-ever of its kind, came about as a result of a Chula Vista maintenance truck hitting a personal vehicle, thank goodness not a GTO, nor any pedestrians in the driveway! Tammy's vehicle was parked in the hotel parking lot, minding its own business, when the driverless maintenance truck, which had been left in an upper parking lot, somehow came out of gear, rolled down the hill, jumped a curb, crossed through a mulched area, barely missed bollards and a well-connection, only to hit her Excursion broadside in the passenger doors, hitting it hard enough to push it into the neighboring Lexus parked next to it causing minor damage to its tail light and fender. (The Dalmatian that had been left in the



maintenance truck had quite the ride!) Some of us were wondering how he stepped on the brake in order to take it out of gear!? Again, thank goodness no one was hurt.

Saturday was the load ‘em up, and pull ‘em out day. Since further harsh weather was anticipated for Saturday morning, GTOAA had made the situation a little better by allowing those cars that could, to leave the indoor concours area on Friday evening. As we waved our goodbye’s to having seen our annual acquaintances, it was time to hit the road for home. Another GTOAA national convention is in the history books. It was a fun time.





Presidents Scoop

The President's Scoop

By Terry Schott

The 2021 GTOAA Convention is in the history books, and it turned out to be a great show. Gateway GTO was well represented. We had around 43 members in attendance plus several had additional family members along. The show was at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells, a waterpark and hotel facility. It was a nice venue, but a little spread out. You definitely could get in a lot of walking. Golf cart shuttles were available which were a great help. The weather was extremely hot early in the week, but on Wednesday early morning, the cool front came in. It brought in a day of rain, but the good thing is after it had passed, the weather was a lot cooler and nice for the rest of our time there.

Tuesday evening's anticipated stormy weather with lightning caused the river boat portion of our dinner cruise to be canceled. We were supposed to have ridden along the Wisconsin River and enjoy dinner on the boat. Out of utmost concern for their passengers, the boat company canceled the boat ride but delivered the meal to the hotel and will refund the boat portion.

Gateway brought home 6 awards and 3 additional specialty awards, a very nice showing for our club. There is an article included in this newsletter with many more details on the show. For those of you that have never attended a national meet, I highly recommend it. It is always a great time with lots to see and do. We have made friends that we may only see once a year or possibly see them at our Regional Event, but we always look forward to seeing them again. It is always nice to know that as you travel that you have friends in the various states, should you ever need help.

Our next big club event will be the WIM car show at Westport on Sunday, September 12. As always, we will be parking cars and taking admission fees. I've been informed that they have a brand-new bigger tent for our raffle this year. As you might remember from 2019, a storm came through and although we tried to save it, the tent was blown apart and bent up. Last year, due to COVID 19, the show was cancelled. We hope to have a big turnout this year, and although we do have items for the raffle, current gift cards and certificates for oil changes, hotels, or restaurants are always in demand. Talk to the places you frequent and see if you can get something donated for the raffle. The money all goes to the National Children's Cancer Society, so it's a great cause.

September 18 & 19 will be the regional all-Pontiac event in Pontiac, IL. Please try to attend and help us to corral all the "Ponchos" for the show. Remember to call and get your hotel reservations, if you haven't already, and check out the show flier at gatewaygto.org for the hotel info. I will go into more details in our next newsletter. Again, if you have not attended a national convention due to distance or cost, this regional show in Pontiac, IL, is HIGHLY recommended. This regional show is less than 5 hours from St. Louis, you get to see all models of Pontiacs, and the people of Pontiac are so genuinely happy to have us. This is a non-judged





Presidents Scoop



event. There are many classes of cars, a popular vote in each class, and a great showing of Pontiacs. All of the proceeds from the show go directly to the Pontiac Oakland Museum.

The month of August is pretty open right now, so if you have any ideas for a cruise you might want to set up, call or email me or one of the officers and we would be happy to help you pick a date. Local cruises are always fun, and it can be a simple one, just to get out and drive as a group. If you are able, attend our next meeting on Thursday, August 5, at Gingham's and you can discuss it there. I hope to see you soon.





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



Meeting Minutes 7-1-21

7:04 PM – Meeting Start – No new members.

Old Business

Steve Hedrick talked about the Pontiacs at Pigeon Forge show.

Terry Schott talked about the Route 66 Festival in Lebanon, MO.

7:11 – New Business

Tom Oxler talked about the Nationals at Wisconsin Dells.

Terry Schott talked about dues and that some members are still behind for this year. He also spoke about people putting together caravans to the Nationals. He talked about Wheels In Motion.

Chris Winslow talked about replacing the awnings at the Pontiac Museum in Pontiac, Illinois. We have \$1000 from GTOAA and \$500 from Gateway GTO to help out. Mark Melrose made a motion (seconded by Frank Chapman) to vote on Gateway GTO Association to donate money to the Museum. There was a vote with a majority approval from the present members.

7:18 – Upcoming Events

7/30-8/1 – Ames Tri-Power Nationals – Norwalk, Ohio

7/31-8/1 – MAR 2021 Reunion Race – Bonne Terre Dragstrip

8/6 – Wentzville Car Cruise 6:00 to 9:30PM – Wentzville, MO

9/11 – Randy Gori Memorial Car Show – Edwardsville, IL

9/12 – Wheels In Motion – Maryland Heights, MO

9/18-9/19 – Pontiac Regional Event – Pontiac, IL

10/3 – Gateway GTO Club Picnic – Vago Park

– Maryland Heights, MO

10/30 – Archway Olds Collector Car Trivia Night

12/4 – Gateway GTO Christmas Party

7:25 – GTOAA – Tom Oxler talked about the 2022 Nationals in Kingsport, TN

7:27 – Tech – Mark Melrose talked about a clutch problem.

Chris Simmons talked about a lifter issue.

Earl Lewis brought in another donation check from Hagerty due to new signees. He had additional items for 50/50 drawing.

Tom Oxler's GTO had to be towed back from Lebanon. He still doesn't know what the problem is.

Marty Howard talked about converting his GTO over to a Tremec 5 speed

Terry Schott talked about club T-shirts.

7:40 – Club Personals

Joe Mayweather is still having leg issues due to sciatic nerve

Jon Havens is still recovering from Covid-19

7:42 – Motion to Adjourn – Paula Winslow, seconded by Amy O'Sullivan

50/50 of \$46 won by Mark Melrose

For Fun Come to the Tenth Annual...

GTOAA REGIONAL ALL PONTIAC CRUISE AND SHOW

proceeds benefit the Pontiac-Oakland Museum

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Gateway GTO Club

Pontiac-Oakland Museum
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Phone - 815-842-2345
www.pontiacoaklandmuseum.org

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September 18 - 19, 2021

For Information Contact :

Chris Winslow
636-294-8104

chriswinslow@charter.net

Brian Sorensen
630-991-1465

bsorensen1@comcast.net

both days \$30 Sunday only \$20

for registration & info, see www.gatewaygto.org

- Saturday** • Private Collections • Tour
• Entertainment • Ice Cream Social
Sunday • All Pontiac Car Show
• Expanded Classes • Special Displays

Hotels

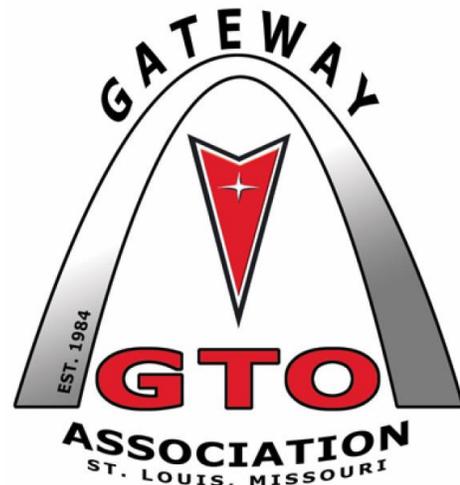
- Hampton Inn 815-844-4400
- Quality Inn 815-844-4444
- Super 8 815-844-6888
- Best Western 815-842-2777

Gateway GTO Membership Renewal

Gateway GTO Dues for 2021 are \$20 and are due by the February Gateway GTO Meeting but there is still time if you missed that deadline.

- 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 or Terry Schott 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.).

GTOAA Membership Renewal

Starting in 2020 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





Year Of The 1's



Calling all owners of 1971 GTO's!

**In 2021, in celebration of:
50th Anniversary of the 1971 GTO**

The Hoodscoop will be featuring Car of the Month articles on the anniversary year

If you own one of these special cars, please get to work on your article(s) and get them to Chris Winslow



2021 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

5 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

September

2 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

12 - Wheels In Motion Car Show - Westport Plaza

18-19 - GTOAA Regional Car Show at the Pontiac Car Museum

October

3 - Annual Gateway GTO picnic at Vago Park

7 - GTO MEETING 7PM at Gingham's

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG

Gateway GTO Classifieds



FOR SALE: 2008 Solstice with 22000 miles. See additional photos on next page.

Contact Don at 314-651-9565 If interested

Gateway GTO Classified Ads





*Tammy Hedrick
Hedrick Insurance Agency
558 Gravois Road, Suite 201
Fenton, MO 63026
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Jon's Tri-Power Service

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Owner

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jfhavens@sbcglobal.net

(314) 496-7368

Jonathan's Q Jet Service

Jonathan Havens

13 Shamblin Dr.
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CustomAutoApparel.com

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



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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 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 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.



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

