

# THE HOOD SCOOP

May 2006



## GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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## 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 Culpeppers Restaurant St. Charles Mo. 3010 West Clay 636-916-3105

**Membership dues are \$20.00 per year and all renewals are required to be paid by December 31st. You are allowed to have one associate member.**

## *Club Sponsors*



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ESTABLISHED 1958

**The Hood Scoop** is published as an informative news bulletin to keep our members up to date on past, present, and future events.

### **Gateway GTO Association Meetings**

Are held monthly. Dates, times, and locations are listed in the **Upcoming Events** section of the newsletter.

### **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 put your name and date and a description of the event on the back and send them to the Photo Album Editor.

**The Gateway GTO Association is an official chapter of the GTO Association of America**  
<http://www.gtoaa.org>

### 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. Advertising rates are: full page \$25.00, 1/2 page \$15.00,

1/4 page \$7.00 for three (3) months running time. Payment is due upon submission, discount of 10% for one year pre-paid. Acceptance is at the sole discretion of the editor. All ads should be submitted to Don Bright by the 10th of the month.

**Visit us at [www.gatewaygto.com](http://www.gatewaygto.com)**

## Gateway GTO Association Ads

### For sale

#### Literature:

1964-1972 GTO Restoration Guides  
New from club store \$15.00

Contact Chris Simmons @ 636-456-3653

455 Block & Crank \$ 350.00 call Tony Bezzole  
@ 314-878-6892

#### GTO Mugs:

1 complete set of GTO Mugs 64 – 73 new in box  
\$110.00 call Tony Bezzole @ 314-878-6892

#### Die Cast:

GMP 1:18 Die-Cast GTOs – 1970 Black Judge,  
1972 Red GTO, 1972 Gold GTO, 1971 Tropical  
Lime each \$89.

1970 Blue Judge convertible \$109.

Will trade for a 1970 Orbit Orange Judge or a  
1971 White Judge.

Contact Harry Smelcer 636-230-6120

#### Trans Am Parts:

1977 and up

Contact John Novelli @ 636-925-9916 or  
314-495-0332 e-mail [gto6472@yahoo.com](mailto:gto6472@yahoo.com)



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Order online at

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### Wanted

#### Lionel Trains

American Flyer Marx. Ho-N-G Gauge,  
Rail road. Books and memorabilia, Free  
appraisals.

Contact John Novelli @ 636-925-9916 or  
314-495-0332

### Services Available

#### Tony's Carburetor Rebuilding

Call Tony Bezzole between 9am-1pm  
@ 314-878-6892

#### ABC DJ Productions

All types of occasions from weddings to  
retirement parties. Disc Jockey & Karaoke.

#### Contact:

Mobile Marty Howard @ 636-724-8641

#### Cee-Jay Auto Body

ASE & I-CAR Certified shop  
2123 East 23rd Street  
Granite City Il.

Contact Cecil Morton@618-452-9553

#### Card Services Inc.

#13 Hawks Nest Plaza  
St. Charles Mo.

Contact Craig Glenn @ 636-946-9892

#### Painting, Pin striping and Restorations

Contact Pat Loy @ 314-550-8745

## President's Scoop May 2006

Hey everyone. Well the club is off to a great start this year. Many of our old members have re-newed, "thank you" and many new members are joining, "thank you". That is great because there are many events planned for the coming months. I hope you can make it to as many as possible with your GTO. I would ask that you keep an eye on the website calendar for changes and additions. I would also like to remind you that if your email or personal information changes, please let the club know so we can keep you up to date.

If you are a GTOAA member, I hope you have taken notice of the new logo and theme. It is good to see that they are including the new GTO's in GTOAA functions and making the new car and it's owners feel welcome. Some folks in the Gateway club have fought hard to include these cars. I will take pride in displaying my '05 along with my '67. With the recent news of the demise of the new GTO in '06, I hope people will recognize these cars are just as great as the older ones.

I hope everyone is wrapping up their plans for the 2006 GTO Nation- als. Hotels are filling up and registration forms are available online and in the Legend. Make plans to attend, it will be fun for everyone and Louis- ville, KY is not that far. I hope to see you there in either my '67 or '05, hopefully both.

I would like to remind everyone that we still have t-shirts for sale.

Fellow Club President / Pontiac Enthusiast,

May is here and cruising season is starting up here in Michigan! I hope that the weather where you are at is favorable for you to get out and have some fun!

I'm just dropping everyone a quick line about our show in July... I've had a few questions about the GM Heritage Center tour (our Saturday event), so I decided to put more information about the facility up on our show page on our web site ([www.gtotigers.org](http://www.gtotigers.org)).

If you have any problems or questions about our show, please feel free to send me an email or give me a call.

Thank you and I hope to see you in July! Until then... Get those cars out there and have fun!!!

On another note please keep your eyes peeled for this stolen 1964 GTO or its parts **Description of stolen GTO**

1964 GTO VIN# 824P5481

Red with Red interior

Hardtop,

389 Tri-power

200 R4 auto trans

Torque Thrust D wheels with raised white letter tires

Power Windows Power

Steering Power Brakes

Red leather steering wheel

Distinguishing marks:

Aluminum beltline is chrome plated

Small dent in rear bumper below gas door

Dime size dent on hood, right front

Rust spot starting at the seam at driver's door

If you see this vehicle or it's parts call the Waterford, Michigan

Police at 248-674-0351

\$1000 reward for it's recovery. Russ

Wright 248-660-5416

Joe

# Gateway GTO Association

## Club Meeting Minutes

### May 3, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Tom Oxler at 7:09PM and conducted at Culpepper's Restaurant in St. Charles. Officers in attendance were Tom Oxler, Mark Melrose and Web Mistress Joyce Nettle.

All members are asked to check their Roster listing on the club website to be sure all info is current – especially email addresses. Please notify Joyce Nettle of any changes.

The club welcomes new member Warren Schaffer, proud owner of a 2005 GTO. Warren's new Goat replaces a 2004 lost in an unfortunate wreck.

Tom reviewed the club's "Dyno Day" held April 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Louis Power Tuners in St. Peters. A total of 19 cars including GGTOA and Arch-POCI vehicles ran three pulls each on the dyno. Photos and complete stats can be found on the club website.

Mark Fry is sponsoring a fund raiser in October with a raffle, Grand Prize is a 1968 GTO convertible. The car just underwent a \$55k restoration, is black-on-black-on-red, TH400 automatic, console, wood wheel, tilt, etc. Tickets are \$25/each or \$100/5. More details in the future.

Tom presented some more info on the 2006 GTOAA Nationals 7/11-7/16 in Louisville, KY. GGTOA will sponsor the Valve Cover Races – all members are encouraged to build a valve cover racer and participate (rules can be found on the club website). LS1.com is sponsoring "Hooter's Nite" on Wednesday night and a "Special Event" on Thursday night. Also on Thursday night there will be a special "Jim Wangers Birthday Tribute" (Jim's 80<sup>th</sup>) – GGTOA to develop a signed photograph gift for Jim. As has been previously mentioned, the hotels are filling up – make your reservations now. Three members plan to drive their cars to the Nats – Oxler ('66), Obukowitz ('66) and Melrose ('68) as they did to the 2004 Nats in Pontiac, MI.

The route will be leisurely and mostly non-interstate highway – contact Tom Oxler for details and to join the caravan. Tom also mentioned that *High Performance Pontiac* magazine will sponsor a "Pavement Pounder Shootout" at the Nats with results/cars featured in the magazine – Tom has entered his car and recommends other members enter as well (these are not drag races, but are individual profiles of a car's ownership/construction/equipment/performance).

John Novelli brought 27 plasma-cut stainless steel "Pontiac GTO 6.5 Litre" logo plaques (same as the most popular "rob-your-neighbor" gift at the 2005 Christmas Party) and offered them for sale at \$35/each. I don't think there were any/many left by the end of the night.

Tom reported that Steve Hedrick is looking into sourcing club logo folding chairs – more details to come.

A tentative Club Activity List was handed out and after general discussion the following activities and dates were confirmed (see club newsletter for a complete listing of club sponsored events):

MAY:

- St. Louis Muscle Tour on 5/13/06 – first of three planned for this season. Go to [stlnovas.org](http://stlnovas.org) for details. Great, all-day nuclecar cruise of St. Louis area – both Missouri and Illinois – ending with a cruise-in.
- Mike Bien outlined the Highway 94 Club Cruise planned for May 21<sup>st</sup>, the April club newsletter and the club website have details, a map, etc. Cars will leave from St. Charles and travel to Washington, MO and back with several interesting stops along the way. See Mike or Tom Oxler for details and to participate. Go to link on Club website "Calendar". (Club-sponsored event)

JUNE:

- POCI Midwest Show-Me Regional Cruise on Saturday, 6/3/06 at the Capitol Mall in Jefferson City. Go to archpoci.com for details. (Club-sponsored event)
- Behlmann-GGTOA Club display on Saturday, 6/10/06 at Behlmann Pontiac/GMC. Behlmann is a major GGTOA sponsor – all members are urged to display their cars at this event in support of Behlmann Pontiac/GMC. Rain date is 6/17/06. (Club-sponsored event)
- American Roadhouse Show on 6/11/06 at the Warrenton Outlet Mall, Warrenton, MO. GGTOA has sponsored a GTO Car Class. Go to link on Club website “Calendar”. (Club-sponsored event)
- Route 66 Festival on 6/25-6/26/06 in Litchfield, Illinois. Go to link on Club website “Calendar”. (Club-sponsored event)

JULY:

- GTOAA National Meet 7/11-7/15/06 in Louisville, Kentucky. Make your reservations soon as the hotels are filling up.
- National Museum of Transport Car Show, Barrett Station Road – north off I270 Big Bend exit – on 7/30/06. (Club-sponsored event)

AUGUST:

- Ames Tri-Power Nationals 8/4-8/6/06 in Norwalk, OH. Go to link on Club website “Calendar”. (Club-sponsored event)

In other business:

- Club Business Cards, Points System Rules and Submission Forms along with copies of the Club Constitution are available to all members through Mark Melrose.
- 50-50 drawing was good for \$42 to the winner – Jerry Novac.
- Next meeting is called for 7:00PM on Wednesday, 6/7/06 at Culpepper’s (I-70 at Zumbahl Rd.)
- Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted May 8, 2006,  
Mark J. Melrose  
GGTOA Secretary

## Two Articles You Should Have Read, But May Not Have

### **Pontiac will drop the GTO this year**

Jamie LaReau

Automotive News / February 21, 2006 - 10:08 am



DETROIT -- General Motors has told Pontiac dealers that it will discontinue the GTO coupe at the end of this model year. GM will make the last deliveries of the vehicle to dealers by the end of September, sources close to Pontiac say.

GM will produce 10,000 to 12,000 more GTOs before dropping the nameplate, one source close to the situation says. Last year, Pontiac sold 11,590 GTOs compared to 2004 when it sold 13,569. That's a 14.6 percent drop.

When Pontiac launched the GTO in 2003, it projected 18,000 annual sales. The vehicle was criticized for bland styling, and some fans of the original GTO complained that it lacked nostalgic styling cues.

A Pontiac spokesman confirms the GTO will be discontinued after the 2006 model year.

“There are some changes in the federal regulatory standards. One is an airbag deployment standard that would require some very expensive re-engineering of the car,” says Jim Hopson, Pontiac spokesman. “Since the architecture of this car is being phased out around the world it’s not economically feasible to continue this car.”

Pontiac will continue to build the GTO through the end of May, Hopson says. The last “boatload will hit the ground in June”, he adds.

The GTO first came to dealerships in December 2003 as a 2004 model, Hopson says.

The GTO is built on a rear-wheel drive architecture from GM's Holden division in Australia. The present model is going out of production as GM constructs the new Zeta RWD architecture, says the source.

There is no replacement coupe planned at this time and because of the strong Australian and weak U.S. dollar, the GTO had to be priced thousands over where GM originally wanted it -- in the mid-twenties, the source says. "It never did as much volume as we had hoped," the source says.

Pontiac is considering a replacement in the lineup for a RWD performance vehicle, but does not have anything to announce yet, Hopson says.

The GTO suggested retail price starts at \$31,990, including shipping. One GM source says, "the 2005 and 2006 were pretty well sold out, and sales were especially strong in areas of GM weakness, like Southern California. It's a shame it has to go -- for now."

# The Next Pontiac GTO

Posted March 9, 2006 08:21 PM by Tim Beggs.



By now, most enthusiasts know the Australian (Holden) designed GTO is being dropped after production is wrapped up in September of this year. The next generation GTO debut is proposed for late 2008, with GM hinting at plans to have the model based upon the latest rear-wheel drive platform (Zeta) and production set in North America, along with the new Camaro.

## Off, Then On Again

GM's Vice President of Global Product Development, Bob Lutz, also stated that recently released reports of the car's imminent demise were not the most accurate picture—the development and design plans were only out of commission for two months. More recent statements have shown that the next generation's development plans were merely placed on hold after internal reorganization had been accomplished in order to effectively reach profitability and production goals. "The reason we said it was cancelled is because that way our people would put their pencils down," Lutz said. "In GM if you say something is deferred, then people keep working on it. We really needed to get that message through to everybody." Well, word spread fast, and everyone believed the GTO was finished.



## The Next Phase

The Australian subsidiary, Holden, will play a leading part in design and development in both the new GTO and the Camaro. Holden holds responsibility for the underlying platform which these cars are to be based upon, so it only makes sense for GM to continue down a paved road. Strong hints at US production are evident; however, the final decision will rely greatly upon the Aussie and US Dollar exchange rates.



## Wait For It...

The facts are known. The GTO is going to be down and out for about two years. Will retro inspiration and attitude be enough to keep consumers' interest in the concept? Will GM successfully develop a car that is still affordable to purchase as well as produce? Better still, will the GTO recapture the mystique of its muscular heritage? Let's hope so.

Thanks to Ron Metz and Heart of Illinois GTO Club Newsletter for sharing.



**GATEWAY GTO CLUB PRESENTS:**

# *PROM NIGHT*

**THEME:** **Groovin in the 60s**

**WHEN:** **October 28th**

**WHERE:** **Knights of Columbus, 20 Westbury Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303**

**TIME:** **6:30 – 11:30 PM**

**COST:** **\$20 person / \$40 couple**

**MUSIC:** **Marty – our beloved DJ**

**ATTIRE:** **Think 1960s!**

**6:30 Photo Event – Arrive with Sweetheart and GTO  
Happy Hour / Cash Bar**

**7:30 Dinner Buffet**

**8:30 Photo Event – Presentation of Couples Under The Arch  
Dancing / Boomer Trivia Contests / Door Prizes**

**10:30 Crowning of King and Queen**

**11:30 Leave with Sweetheart and GTO**

**A flashback to our favorite era when the GTO was born. Were you a greaser or a hip- pie?  
Or a member of the mod squad?**

**[toxler@prodigy.net](mailto:toxler@prodigy.net) Hoping for great attendance like at the Christmas party!!!**

**ONLY 4000  
TICKETS AVAILABLE**

**TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
1968 GTO RAFFLE**

**DONATED BY 1978  
ROSARY GRADUATE  
DON DAVIS**



**TICKETS  
\$25 EACH  
(5 FOR \$100)**

**Drawing – Friday October 6, 2006  
(Trinity Homecoming Football Game)  
Winner Need Not Be Present to Win**

- \*V8 Engine \* Automatic Transmission**
- \*Hurst His/Hers Shifter \*Convertible Black Top**
- \*Complete Frame-Off Restoration – (Factory Condition)**
- \*Winner Accepts Car “As Is” and is Responsible for  
All Fees (Tax, License and Transportation)**

**\*\$25,000 Cash Option Available (Winner Responsible for Taxes)  
\*For Tickets Contact the Trinity Catholic High School  
Advancement Office @ 314-741-1333 ext. 223 or e-mail  
[office@trinitycatholichighschool.org](mailto:office@trinitycatholichighschool.org), Jim Byrne at  
[i.g.byrne@worldnet.att.net](mailto:i.g.byrne@worldnet.att.net) or Jim Castello at  
[royalcomic@aol.com](mailto:royalcomic@aol.com)**

**Gateway GTO Association  
Participation Points Submission  
April 2006**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gateway GTO Sponsored Events:**

4/5/06 Club Meeting: wGTO \_\_\_\_\_ w/oGTO \_\_\_\_\_

4/8/06 Dyno Day: wGTO \_\_\_\_\_ w/oGTO \_\_\_\_\_

4/16/06 Easter Show at Forrest Park: wGTO \_\_\_\_\_ w/oGTO \_\_\_\_\_

4/29/06 Southern Illinois Cruise: wGTO \_\_\_\_\_ w/oGTO \_\_\_\_\_

**GTOAA Sponsored Events – Be sure to indicate wGTO or w/oGTO for each entry:**  
(GTOAA Nationals, GTOAA Regionals, etc.)

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**Gateway GTO Non-Sponsored Events – Be sure to indicate wGTO or w/oGTO for each entry:** (JJ's, POCI Nationals, Roadhouse Warrenton, Tri-Power Nationals, etc.)

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**Other Activities:** (Event Helper, Hood Scoop Article, Sponsor New Member, etc. -- See Gateway GTO Association Participation Points System 01/06 Rev.)

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Submit **ONE** completed form for each month within 30 days of month end to:

Mark Melrose  
151 Plant Ave.  
Webster Groves, MO 63119-3046  
Phone: 314-968-3106  
FAX: 314-968-5391  
Email: [mjmelrose@aol.com](mailto:mjmelrose@aol.com)

*Use Reverse Side If Additional Space is Required*

