



# THE HOOD SCOOP

FEBRUARY 2009

## GTO of The Month

By Shauna Wollmershauser

Gateway GTO  
Association



When Tom asked me if I'd write an article for the Goat Of the Month I was a little surprised. I accepted and now the pressure is on. I hope you enjoy my story.

I'm a divorced mom of three. Alex (13), Darren (12), and Mattie (11) have been seen tagging along with me at events from time to time. I have several hobbies that include mountain biking, RC trucks, detailing cars, attending car shows, video games, and spending time at the track.

Fortunately for me a few of my family members also drag race. When I was a kid I spent most of my summer vacations turning wrenches, more like handing wrenches to an uncle or brother. I was rewarded by being allowed to tag along when they went to the racetrack.

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I made up my mind then that at some point in my life I would own a muscle car. Twenty years later (wow) it happened. I picked up my GTO Saturday June 24, 2006. It had nine miles on the odometer. Unfortunately I had to work that day so I couldn't make a trip to Kansas

City with my brother James. So I called him oh about 6 times to make sure I'd catch him at home when he got back into town. His reaction when I pulled in behind him with the GTO said that I had done well. Then I took him for a ride around the block. That was a fun 12 seconds.



A few days later I found the Gateway GTO club and made my first meeting. I've been hanging around since then. I've met some great people. Made new friends, and had some great times with club members.

If anyone had told me that I would have done so much (two legs of the Hot Rod Power Tour, 2007 Nationals, countless car shows, and racing events) in such a short period of time I wouldn't have believed it.

I am still going to buy a classic GTO. Until then I'll enjoy my '06. I just haven't decided which year yet. I'm torn between a '66 and a '67.

My car did not stay stock for long. My first modifications were a few new suspension parts. Then came long tube headers and a tune. My next purchase was a new shifter. After the shifter came a custom aluminum radiator. Now I'm rebuilding the motor. Rebuilding the motor has been one expensive yet fun learning experience for me. I'm not sure what the new horsepower/torque readings will be, but I'm pretty sure I'll be happy with the final numbers.

I'm looking forward to another year doing car shows, making track days, and eating way too much ice cream again this year.





## **The Presidents Scoop**

### **By Tom Oxler**

Your Elected Officers have been busy looking to the future of the Gateway GTO Club. Next year, 2010, all Chapters must have 50% of its members belonging to GTOAA or the Chapter will be decertified. What does that mean to the Gateway GTO Club and how will it affect us? We are currently at 54% participation in GTOAA so we make the objective this year and should not have any problem next year either. However, the Gateway GTO Club relies greatly on the \$3,000,000 in liability insurance given to all Certified Chapters in GTOAA. Thus, it is imperative that the Gateway GTO Club maintain its certification in GTOAA in order to protect the Officers and Members against any type of lawsuit or litigation. We all know how many ads you see every day on TV about “if you have been harmed, call me”.

As I stated in the beginning of this article, the Officers have been looking to the future and what we see is the percentage participation in GTOAA getting larger and larger. Back in the 1990's, every Chapter was required to have 100% participation but along the way, it was relaxed to the point many Chapters were in the 20% range. The goal of GTOAA is to gradually increase Chapter participation until all Chapters are back to 100%. The Officers analyzed several alternatives and recommend we revise our Bylaws and Constitution to:

#### **Require all new members must maintain membership in GTOAA.**

With our current participation at 54%, this change will gradually increase our GTOAA participation as older members drop out and new members replace them. This should keep the Gateway GTO Club always ahead of the GTOAA participation requirements. The Elected Officers hope you agree and will vote in favor of the revised Bylaws & Constitution at the March Club meeting.

For those of you existing members who are not currently a member of GTOAA, I want to let you know some of the reasons 54% of the Gateway GTO Club have joined such a fine organization:

- 1) **GTOAA supplies each Chapter with \$3,000,000 in liability insurance. This covers both Officers and Members while conducting approved Chapter events. In this time of massive lawsuits, you cannot ask your Club Officers to perform their duties without assuring that they are not risking their own personal assets.**
- 2) **GTOAA publishes the award winning ALL GTO magazine, THE LEGEND. This is a 32 page monthly publication contains technical articles, stories about members GTOs, a large classified section and much more information dedicated only to GTOs and GTO enthusiasts. GTOAA also hosts a very good web site: [www.gtoaa.org](http://www.gtoaa.org) .**
- 3) **GTOAA hosts an annual National Convention where GTO enthusiasts can come together and see the vast diversity within this great organization. From the Technical Seminars to the Concours Judging to the Activities and Popular Vote Car Show, there is no other single GTO event like a GTOAA National Convention.**
- 4) **GTOAA provides the “collective intelligence” on the Great One, the GTO. No other Pontiac organization or publication does more to bring together the issues, ideas, needs and wants of GTO enthusiasts worldwide. Technical experts for each of the production years are available through GTOAA to answer those difficult questions we all have encountered while working or restoring our GTOs.**

**I ask you to consider joining GTOAA.**

GATEWAY GTO CLUB FEBRUARY  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 4, 2009

The monthly Gateway GTO meeting was held at the new “regular” location at Culpeppers on St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton. Members began arriving by 6:00 PM for dinner and fellowship.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Tom Oxler. Officers in attendance: Tom Oxler, Will Bowers, Steve Hedrick, and Kerry Friedman.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Were announced and introduced if present.

George Jetter ‘05  
Kevin and Shannon Manning ‘05  
Kyle Keith ‘05  
Carl Thoenen ’67 Conv.

Terry Snyder – a prospective member was in attendance. (By the end of the meeting he was a new member. He has a Black/Black ’64 2-door post GTO.

**ANNUAL DUES:**

Tom related to the membership that the 2009 dues were due by January 1 and the grace period will end on February 28. After that date unpaid members would no longer be in good standing and will not receive the Hood Scoop or any Club information.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The following November, December, and January events were summarized:

Fox Theater Tour. A group of 25-28 Club members went on a guided tour of the Fox Theater on November 22. Marty Howard had arranged the tour and gave a brief account of the tour. Marty said the Theater was very impressive and they were shown all over. A

more detailed article can be found in the January Hood Scoop. After the Tour, they had lunch at the Tap Room.

Holiday Party: Was held at the Webster Barn. About 65 people were on hand for good food, fun, and more good food. A discussion was held about where to have next years party and whether to have it catered again or pot luck or something else. By an overwhelming show of hands, it was agreed to hold the party at the same location, and to have it catered. If necessary, the cost per person would go up to pay for the food, and the Club would pick up the cost of the room.

Pizza Party: Was held at Serra’s Pizzeria on January 18. As usual the pizza was great and there was plenty of it. 65 members were in attendance. All had a good time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

BY-LAW Changes: Will be put on the website for your review before the next meeting. Some changes were made due to member’s suggestions. Others were a result of the Non-Profit Incorporation, such as the Officer/Directors status. These will be discussed at the next monthly meeting for approval.

GTOAA Membership: Tom explained the history of how Local Chapters used to be required to have 100% membership in the GTOAA. That was changed over the years to the current 40% requirement. Soon it will be changed to 50%. We are now at 54%. In order to maintain this level, one of the new By-Law changes will require all new Gateway members to be GTOAA members. There are major benefits for our Club. A \$3,000,000 liability policy is in effect when we have our events. This can help protect every member. Besides the outstanding conventions that GTOAA holds, members

receive the award winning Legend Magazine every month with many full color pictures and technical articles. Also at your service are technical advisors for every year GTO.

Comedy Club: Marty has arranged another free evening at the Comedy Forum , Hwy 70 and Cave Springs. We will meet there at 7:30 on Saturday, February 21.

Marty said he needs a count of attendees no later than February 19. Some acts may be risqué, so if you are easily offended, you may not want to go. We will probably go out and eat after.

Easter Show: The annual Easter Car show will be on April 12 at the Muny Parking lot for cars 25 years or older, and down below for newer cars. This year we will be doing both. Tom is looking for a new car coordinator to organize the lower lot group. Those showing on the upper lot with POCI and Gateway, need to send \$15 to Will for reserving the space. The lower lot is pay when you get there. We will meet at McDonalds on Hampton.

King Louie Drive-In Cruise: As a joint cruise with Bluff City Pontiac May 9<sup>th</sup> in Wood River, IL. Dash Plaques. Free and good food. Rain date May 16. Jeff and Debbie Bond

Bob's Gasoline Alley Cruise: Cruise down old Rt 66 to Cuba, MO. \$10 per person catered lunch. Must pay in advance for reservation. Terry and Gail Schott

Benton Drag Day: May 30 in Benton, IL for open 1/8 mile drag racing, 9:00am to 3:00 pm. Track will be prepped and concession stand open. \$35 per driver and guest. Open to all. Invite your friends from other clubs to show them what a Pontiac can do. Meet 7:30 at FedEx Kinkos in Fairview Heights for a caravan to the track. Dinner at the same restraint as last year. Help needed at the track. Shauna Wollmershauser

Behlmann Car Show: Annual event for all Buicks, Pontiacs, and GMCs. June 13. Behlmann will again be a Club Sponsor. They have in the past given us \$500.

GTOAA 2009 Convention: Will be held July 7 – 11, in Dayton, Ohio. Hotels are filling up fast. Make your reservations now. You must be a member of GTOAA or POCI to participate. If you want to show your car in both sections, you have to belong to both organizations. Currently more GTOAA have registered than POCI. Several caravans will be forming to cruise to the event. Earl Lewis will trailer his car, and if someone breaks down, his trailer will be available. You can go to [www.gtoaa.org](http://www.gtoaa.org) for a link to the Convention. Steve Hedrick

Sponsor Program: The sponsorship program has changed. Sponsors can now choose between the \$100 full page, \$50 ½ page, and \$25 business card ad. With each program, they would get the appropriate size ad in the monthly Hood Scoop, and a listing and link on our website [www.gatewaygto.org](http://www.gatewaygto.org).

#### Sign Up Sheets:

The monthly meeting sheets were sent around to be marked with attendance.

#### TECH ISSUES

Tom Oxler told us that a real HEMI HEAD was being built for the Pontiacs by Kauffmann. He stated how much more cfm of air could go through than the regular heads.

Shauna is now waiting for a custom built cam for her engine rebuild project. She is envying the lower cost of parts for the older cars as for the new cars.

John Taylor's ordered new headers and the wrong ones came. He is now waiting again. The car is still at Moran's.

Kerry Friedman discussed his current project of removing the Turbo 400 transmission and replacing it with a 700R4 (Chevy) with overdrive. Torque converters and stall were explained by members.

Steve Hedrick showed a '67 1/24 model he got from a parts store. They are available where WIX products are sold for about \$30. It was real nicely detailed.

#### GOOD OF THE CLUB

Buzz Simpson shoulder operation went well and he is doing good.

Bev Mayweather had her hip replaced and is now walking without a cane.

Kathy Boyer had surgery for a clogged carotid artery and is doing well.

Ray Brunkhorst had surgery for a double hernia and is recovering slowly.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 after Kyle Keith, won \$40.00 in the 50-50 drawing.

Minutes by Kerry Friedman, Secretary

### **Gateway GTO January Financial Summary**

#### GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION 2009 INCOME AND EXPENSES

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE 12/31/08		4,108.17	
INCOME			
DUES	820.00		
MISC. INCOME	57.50		
TOTAL INCOME	877.50	877.50	
EXPENSES			
PIZZA PARTY	353.26		
PRINTING, NEWSLETTERS, MAILINGS	238.89		
DRAG DAY	743.00		
SCRAP BOOK	113.63		
CHRISTMAS PARTY	166.50		
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,615.28	-1,615.28	
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE 1/31/09		3,370.39	



## Gateway GTO Club Annual Pizza Party

Sunday, January 18, was slightly overcast with a few light snow flurries but that did not stop over 65 members from



coming to the annual Gateway GTO Club Pizza Party. The folks at Serra's kept the pizza flowing from 1:00 pm to well past 4:00 pm and several members were seen still visiting late into the afternoon.

Tom Oxler, our President, told the members present that a new meeting location had been secured and our monthly meetings will be held at Culpeppers located on St. Charles Rock Rd. just ½ mile east of I-270 in Bridgeton. The first meeting of 2009 will be February 4th. There is excellent parking behind the restaurant with large viewing windows in the meeting room so members can keep an eye on their vehicles. Tom thanked everyone for coming and stated this was one of the largest showings at a Pizza Party in club history.

Our CEO, Marty Howard, also stated he made reservations at the Comedy Club for an evening on February 21<sup>st</sup> and is also working on several new events for March and April. He said to watch the club calendar on [www.gatewaygto.org](http://www.gatewaygto.org).

We hope everyone had plenty of pizza and lots of camaraderie and friendship.





# The Tear Down and Diagnosis Of My Motor

By  
Shauna Wollmershauser

By now you've read about the fun that a few of us had removing the motor from my GTO. The next day I dropped the motor and transmission off to have it torn down, find out what was wrong, and start the rebuilding process.

With the right tools and amount of patience the transmission was separated from the motor. Turns out that there was

an issue with my clutch and that's why we couldn't separate it from the transmission during the removal process. It's time for a new clutch. I actually expected that considering the stock clutch had 60,000 miles on it. Once the transmission was separated from the motor the real fun began.





Unlike some other motors you can't get to the lifters by removing the intake. You actually have to remove the heads to get to them.





Fortunately I didn't drop a valve. The heads were just fine. So are the pistons.



The oil pan has been removed and things appear to be okay.



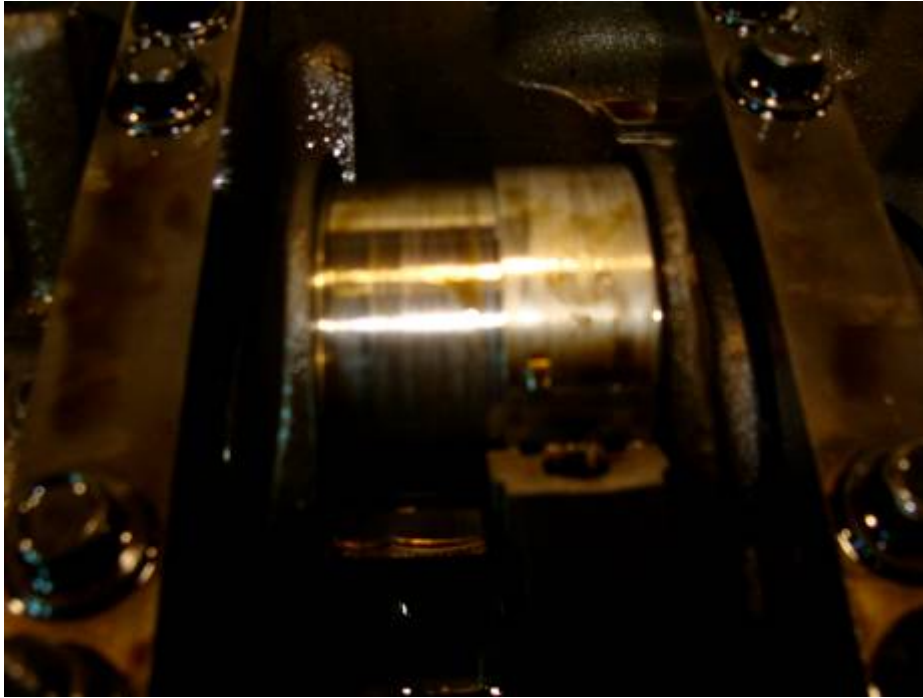
Well things appear to be okay until the rods are removed.



Um that can't be good can it? No, not good at all.







The crank now that the rods and pistons have been removed.



The damage report is as follows:  
I spun bearings #5 and 6; #7 was on its way out.  
My rear main seal was leaking.

The crank can be turned so fortunately I don't have to buy a new crank.  
Two rods are done and a third is suspect.  
The flywheel is fine; it just needs to be resurfaced.  
The cause? Lack of oil. How did I manage to pull that one off? Four factors. One is oil consumption. The other is the rear main seal leaking. It's also been suggested that things got a little too hot when I had the catastrophic radiator failure. I also took advantage of the fact that this is a new car. Most of us don't think to check the oil at every fill up. Turns out the way these motors are made I should have been checking my oil at least once a day considering how I drive. For whatever reason LS2's mated up with manual transmissions consume oil at an astonishing rate when you drive aggressively. Don't believe me. Read that oil consumption letter that GM sent out.

Did I learn any lessons out of all this?  
Yes. Motors aren't invincible. When you fall off of a make shift stool and land on a jack stand it hurts. Most importantly I learned to **CHECK MY OIL**.

Where do I go from here? Well I've got a long list of parts to buy. At the top of that list is an oil pressure gauge. Oddly enough we don't have oil pressure gauges in the late model GTO's. Nor did my car exhibit any of the tell tale signs of using oil. No smoke out of the tail pipe. No oil all over the back of the car. The only indication I got that something was wrong was the car developed a knock. I knew then that something was wrong.

I do not know when the car will be back on the road. I'm hoping for Christmas. If it's later than that so be it.

For those of you wondering the motor is at Ranken Technical College with Omer Phelps. Omer was also the photographer.

I'll keep you ladies and gentlemen posted on the progress of the rebuild.

## 2009 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 4 – GTO Meeting 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 21 – Comedy Forum - 4141 N Cloverleaf Dr. St. Peters Meet at 7:30pm for the 8:00pm Show (CLUB SPONSORED) Contact Marty Howard on 636-724-8641 for more details

### MARCH

- 4 – GTO Meeting 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)

### APRIL

- 1 – GTO Meeting 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 12 – EASTER SHOWS – Muny Opera – New GTO's Lower Lot  
Old GTO's Upper Lot (Club Sponsored)
- TBD – Ranken Alumni Car Show

### MAY

- 6 – GTO Meeting 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 9 – Cruise In at King Louie's Drive In in Wood River - Joint event with the Bluff City Pontiac Club (CLUB SPONSORED) More info to follow. Rain date Saturday, May 16th.
- 23 - Cruise to Bob's Gasoline Alley in Cuba, Mo. Hosted by Terry & Gail Schott (CLUB SPONSORED) We will "cruise" down Old Route 66 to Bob's where lunch will be served. More info to follow. Click [HERE](#) for more info. Reservations required.
- 30 - Drag Day at I-57 Dragway in Benton, Illinois (CLUB SPONSORED) \$35 to drag race from 9am to 3pm. \$5 for spectators

### JUNE

- 3 – GTO Meeting 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 6 - Annual GTO-Pontiac-Buick-GMC Car Show at Behlmann Buick Pontiac GMC at 820 McDonnell Blvd, Hazelwood, Mo. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 7 - Anchorfest Car Show in Centralia, Mo. More info to follow. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 13 - Rain Date - Annual GTO-Pontiac-Buick-GMC Car Show at Behlmann Buick Pontiac GMC at 820 McDonnell Blvd, Hazelwood, Mo. (CLUB SPONSORED)

### JULY

- 1 - GTO MEETING 7pm Culpeppers Restaurant 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 7-11 – GTOA/POCI CO-VENTION – Dayton, Ohio, (Club Sponsored)

SEE THE CALENDAR PAGE ON [WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG](http://WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG) FOR THE LATEST

## GTO MARKETPLACE



***Greetings fellow Pontiac Lovers.***

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# GTO MARKETPLACE

## LOOKING TO ADD TO YOUR GTO COLLECTION?



At the pizza party I had brought the Christmas gift I had given Mr. GTO to show members, specifically the wives, as we are always looking for GTO gifts for our husbands. Mary Ann Ray had contacted me after she had purchased the hand carved GTO model for Brian for Christmas and thought I would be interested too.

She saw the car displayed at a kiosk at a local mall and after much discussion with the gentleman, Mary Ann told him it was a 1967 GTO, not the

1969 he was advertising. The web site is [www.handcarvedcollectables.com](http://www.handcarvedcollectables.com) but it has not been currently updated with the GTO but I have attached pictures. The model is made out of mahogany. There are many other transportation vehicles on the web site, planes, trains, mustangs, corvettes etc.

Mary Ann has offered to purchase the vehicles for anyone interested and would bring them to St. Louis the next time they are in town thus saving shipping costs. The models cost \$50 but if numerous ones are purchased the price would be reduced somewhat.

You can contact Mary Ann at 501-259-8023 or email at [raybs@cebridge.net](mailto:raybs@cebridge.net).





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information on our Website Related Links page. \$35 -

Includes your logo on our Website Related Links page.

**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 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, 12434 St. Charles Rock Rd, Bridgeton, Mo. 63044 (314) 739-6781.

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 Sponsor



820 McDonnell Blvd.

Hazelwood Mo. 63042

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[www.behlmann.com](http://www.behlmann.com)



**As a Gateway GTO member please consider joining the  
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**The Gateway GTO Association  
is an official chapter of the  
GTO Association of America  
[www.gtoaa.org](http://www.gtoaa.org)**

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

### 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.

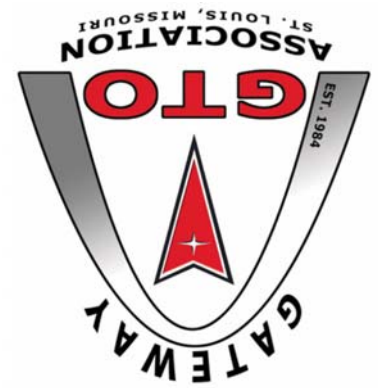
### Advertising Guidelines

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:

\$300 or more -Includes your logo on our Website Home page, your logo and information on our Website Sponsor page, and Website Related Links page, ½ page ad in our Newsletter, and a trophy presented in your name at the annual car show. \$200 -Includes your logo on our Website Home page, your logo and information on our Website Sponsor page, and Website Related Links page, and ½ page ad in our Newsletter. \$50 - Includes ½ page ad in our Newsletter and your logo and





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