



# THE HOOD SCOOP

MARCH 2012

Gateway GTO  
Association



An Official Chapter of the GTO Association of America

## GTO of the Month

My GTO

By Tony Tosto



I graduated from CBC High School in 1967. Attended St. Louis University '67-'68 and UMSL '68-'69, Meteorology was an intended career. Time off from studies resulted in a two year "employment" in the U.S. Army, courtesy of the draft. Sue and I married while in the military and spent time together in Germany in 1970-1971. Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic was my military job, so I pursued that career path after service.

I was an avid softball player (until 2 years ago) am active in NHRA Drag Racing in the sportsman division with a stock eliminator car in the A/Stock Class, specifically a 1969 Camaro, 396 4-speed combination. But I love driving Pontiacs.

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rine Corps and is currently employed at Boeing as an Avionics Engineer. We are proud parents and Grandparents.

Now back to Pontiac Muscle. We purchased our current 1964 GTO on a trip to the Phoenix area for an NHRA Drag Race.

Sue and I have been club members for approximately 14 years. A very dear friend, John Seabolt, introduced me to the club prior to the purchase of my current '64 GTO. The car is a clone of the first car I purchased right out of high school: A midnight black, red interior, post car that I owned from 1967 to 1969. That car introduced me to Pontiac Muscle and the classic design has been a favorite of mine ever since. Sue and I dated while I owned the car and it was a very successful "acceleration vehicle" on the streets of north county. (I hope that was politically correct).

We have two grown sons, Mark & Matt and they have given us four grandsons: Taylor, Hunter, Kaiden and Dominic. Many of you know Mark thru the Auto Repair Business that Sue and I operated for over 20 years. He was very much a part of our success. I was pleased to have helped some of you with your performance and repair needs and I Thank You. My youngest son, Matt spent five years in the Ma-

Sue noticed the car in the parking lot while trying to locate the white rental car with Arizona plates-in Phoenix, everyone owns a white car. She left a note on the windshield asking them to call if ever a sale was anticipated. About 8 months later, we received notice that indeed it could be bought. A trip back to Phoenix, a call to a transport company and the car was delivered to my shop in Florissant for inspection and restoration.

Not being a Body Repair person, I called Jim Novelli (Jim's Auto Body) to perform the body and paint work. I performed all mechanical repairs. Chris Simmons handled the interior and upholstery work. Many thanks to Jim and Chris for their help.

In closing I will say that my membership in the GTO Club has been very enjoyable. Sue and I hope to become more involved in Club Activities this year. If I can be of any help with auto repair or performance questions, please let me know.



# Presidents Scoop



## The Presidents Scoop By Mark Melrose

### Affinities

Okay, my secret is out – I like cars. I especially like cars powerful enough to merge efficiently with today’s traffic “patterns”, whatever they may be. I am certain this particular affinity has resulted in my longtime preference for at least eight cylinders to propel me down the road.

But times they are a’changing. Now, naturally aspirated I4s and V6s are pushing 200hp and 330hp respectively and who doesn’t lust after a stupid-fast CTS-V or ZR-1? While the desire for more power than the anemic vehicles of the 1970s, 80s and 90s is being fulfilled and current fossil-fueled vehicles push 70 mpg, recent questions concerning how future vehicles will be powered have come to the forefront. Will it be plug-in electricity, natural gas, bio-fuels, hydrogen fuelcells, solar, wind, nuclear or even flux-capacitors?

In our pursuit of the *Back to the Future* technology of fueling vehicles with garbage, as long as we continue to transmit our basic preferences to the marketplace we’ll still feel good about that sensation of being pressed into the seatback we’ll receive in return. There will always be vehicles made to suit “people who like cars” so if enough of us maintain our affinities then our desires will be satisfied (in one form or another). Personally, I’m game for even a flux-capacitor as long as I am properly pressed into the seatback upon demand.

P.S. Don’t miss the Easter Show in Forrest Park (4/8), our first 2012 North County Cruise Nite (4/13), the Ranken Show (4/15) and Dyno Day (4/21)





# Meeting Minutes



## GATEWAY GTO FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES MARCH 7, 2012

The monthly Gateway GTO meeting was held at JJ's at 1215 South Duchesne in St. Charles, MO. Members began arriving by 6:00 PM for dinner and conversation.

President Mark Melrose called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. Officers in attendance: Mark Melrose, Kerry Friedman, Steve Hedrick, Will Bowers, and Shauna Wollmer-shauser

**New Members:** No new members were present.

### **Old Business:**

**Murder Mystery Theater:** It was an interesting bit of theater. Food was provided. This year's play was better than last year's play.

### **New Business:**

**Insurance:** The insurance company did not want to renew our policy. Earl is working on securing a new policy for the club.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** Check your email for revisions. There are changes to the Directors of the club. There is also another change to the financial reporting. New membership applications would have to be approved by the Board of Directors. Voting for or against the new changes will be done at the next meeting. Please read over the suggested changes and vote at the next meeting.

### **Event Planning:**

**All-Pontiac Regional Meet:** in Pontiac, Il September 29-30, 2012. We need 8-10 people to help out. Please attend this show if you can.

We should know more about hotel rooms and cruises next month. This will be a popular vote show.

**Cruises and Excursions:** Darrel May, Marty Howard, and Will Bowers are working on a few cruises. If you know of any cruises or would like to organize a cruise, let Mark know. Will is organizing a poker run. We will meet on the Illinois side of the Chain of Rocks Bridge. More information will come soon. The poker run will be May 12, 2012.

**Bowling:** will be at Tropicana Lanes. The cost is \$4 a game. Shoes are \$3.75 for the night. We will have our own place to park. This event is April 21, 2012.

**Pinball Wizard:** Only a couple of dates are available. The cost is \$15 per person. The price has gone up because there is a third building with games available. This event is March 24, 2012 at 7PM.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Easter Show:** is April 8, 2012. Cars wishing to park on the upper lot cannot be newer than 1987. The Lower Lot is for everyone else. Mark will send out more information in an email. If you would like to attend the show in the upper lot, let Mark know.

**North County Cruise Night:** The first event is April 13, 2012. Please attend if you can and bring your GTO.

**Ranken Car Show:** is April 15, 2012. The show is \$10 per car. Dash plaques for the first 150 cars. Please attend if you can.

**Gateway GTO Club Dyno Day:** is April 21, 2012 at STL Tuners. Three pulls for \$45. The club will provide snacks. Please attend if you can and bring a friend.



# Meeting Minutes



Tail of the Dragon Run: June 1-3, 2012. Pontiacs in Pigeon Forge is during this event. The group plans on attending the show. You do not have to drive a new GTO to attend. All Pontiacs are welcome.

Hot Rod Power Tour: will be in St. Louis on June 5, 2012. Some members are planning on going to Champagne, IL and driving to St. Louis. More information to follow.

All-American Car Show: is June 16, 2012 at Behlmann. The event is open to all American made cars this year. More information to follow later.

GTOAA Nationals: are being held in Loveland, CO July 3-7, 2012. Several GTO club members are caravanning out. Online registrations is up and running. Concours cars are indoors. Popular vote cars are outdoors. Nationals will be held at the same venue that hosts the Frog Follies and Good Guys Shows.

### Tech Issues:

John Lally's original battery finally failed.

While searching for a new battery, he found out that Diehard batteries are the same as the Odyssey battery.

Mark Melrose bought new tires and had them mounted and balanced in Earl Lewis' garage.

Earl Lewis got his tachometer back from Performance Years. He doesn't know if it works yet.

### Club Personals:

Earl's family is doing a fundraiser for a family member that doesn't have health insurance and his having some extreme health issues. Please check your email for further details.

Amy O'Sullivan is selling Scentsy flameless candles. If you are interested in purchasing anything please contact Amy at amyosullivan.scentsy.us.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11PM

Karen Ewens won \$40 in the 50/50 drawing.





# Technical Article



## Kooks Header and Mid Pipe Install by Shauna Wollmershauser

As many of you know I ordered a new set of headers and mid pipes for my 2006 GTO. This is intended to be a guide only. Different header brands will install slightly differently.

When I ordered my headers I ordered them in the Jet Hot Cherry Red coating. This is what they looked like when they arrived:



Yes I was a happy camper.

My brother, nephew, and I installed these headers, the mid pipes and new spark plug wires in four hours and thirty-seven minutes. That also included a trip to the parts store because I didn't realize I'd need more power steering fluid.

You'll need a couple of metric sockets (10 and 13MM I believe), a box end wrench (5/8th), power steering fluid/ATF fluid, and some patience.

The driver's side header is the most difficult header to install because of the power steering (PS) lines.

Step one: remove fuel rail covers.

Step two: remove spark plug wires and spark plugs. If you were planning on doing a spark plug change now wouldn't be a bad time to do so. Also if you purchased new motor mounts this would be a great time to do that install because the headers aren't in the way.





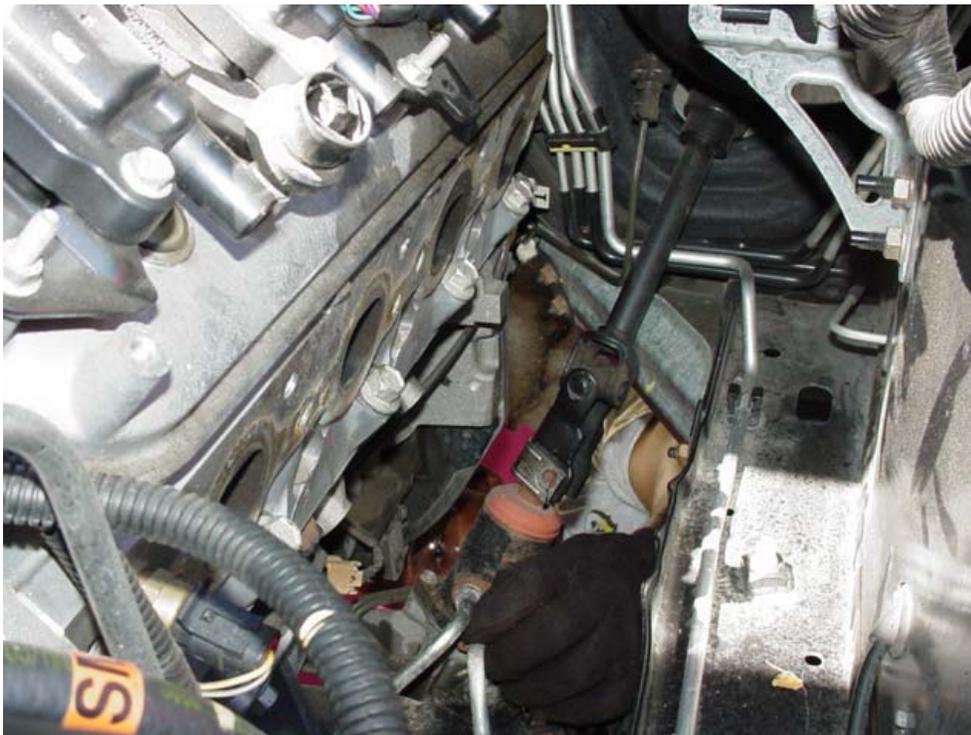
## Technical Article



Step three: Loosen the manifold bolts. (By this time I assume you know that the car needs to be in the air in order to get to your mid pipes and O2 sensors). Now that the manifolds are loose, crawl under the car and remove your O2 sensors. **BE CAREFUL.** If you strip the O2 sensor you're making a trip to the parts store, and be prepared to spend around \$100 for a new one. Now unbolt the mid pipes crawl from under the car and finish removing the manifold. This is what the engine, (once the mid pipes are loose) looks like now.



Repeat steps for the other side of the car. Make sure to lock the steering wheel in place. This will help keep your steering wheel aligned somewhat.



Now here comes the fun part. The power steering lines are two different sizes. Use a wrench to remove the lines, but before you do place a catch can of sorts under the car otherwise you'll be lying in some fluid. Now there are two bolts holding the steering rack in place. Remove those and lower the steering rack. This will open up enough room to get the

driver's side (DS) header in place. There's also a knock sensor that runs along the engine on the DS. Some people have used heat resistant tape or spark plug booties to help with possible heat issues and melting the wire. I picked up a spark plug boot and shielded the wire with that.

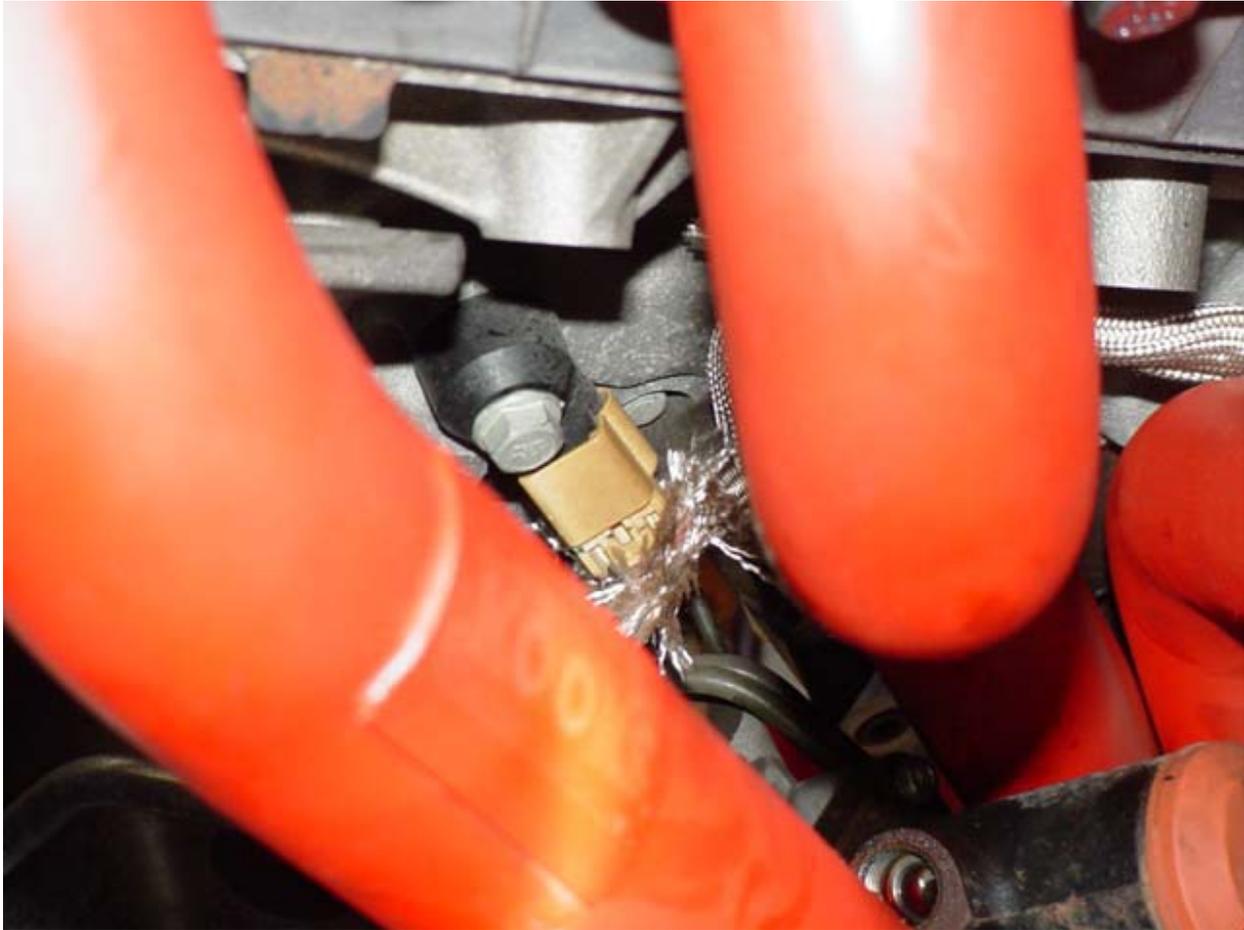




## Technical Article



Now slide the DS header in from the bottom of the car and use the supplied bolts to hold the header in place. The passenger side header is a breeze to install. Just remove the stock manifold and mid pipe and slide the new header in it's place. Now bolt up the mid pipes and install the O2 sensors. The rear O2 sensors will need the extensions that come with your headers. Now here's the great part. The mid pipes bolt up to the stock exhaust.



Knock sensor wrapped in the sparkplug boot

Now all that's left is to button things up. Make sure you get all of the header bolts tight. Replace the spark plugs and spark plug wires. The stock wires leave little clearance between the header pipes. Most people (including me) opt to go with an aftermarket wire. Reinstall the PS rack and PS lines.

The PS lines can be a little tricky at this point. This is where having an extra set of hands helps tremendously. Refill the PS reservoir with PS or ATF fluid. I believe the owner's manual calls for ATF fluid.





## Technical Article



Below is what things should look like:



Now that you've done all of that hard work, it's time for a test drive. Enjoy the new exhaust note and added horsepower.

There's no mistaking these headers for anything other than headers. Shortly after this install I was at Omer's getting the car dyno tuned. It's a very good idea to tune the car after an install such as this. One thing you will notice after about fifty miles of driving is that your Check Engine light comes on. This is because the rear O2 sensors aren't used to getting so much airflow so they wig out. The best way to handle that is to have your tuner turn them off.

A few months later I'm still very glad I made this upgrade to the car. Yes, the headers still look the same.



# Gateway GTO Activities



## Gateway GTO Poker Run By Will Bowers

The Gateway GTO Poker Run will be held on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It starts at the east end (Illinois side) of the old Chain of Rocks Bridge. We will travel a total of 60 miles, primarily on old Route 66 (1930-1942) ending just north of Litchfield, IL at the Wooden Nickel Winery and Saloon. <http://woodennickelwinery.com/>

Each hand of poker will cost \$10.00. The winner will receive \$5.00 and \$5.00 will go to the club. A total of 7 cards will be picked for each hand at various stops. Each card will be in a sealed envelope and is not to be opened until the end of the run. At that time, you will open your envelopes and pick your best 5 card poker hand to determine the winner. More than one hand can be played per car; however, there will be separate decks, so the cards cannot be pooled for one good hand.



The beginning of the cruise starts on Chouteau Island at 11:00 A.M. To get to Chouteau Island, you will need to take I-270, traveling to IL, and exit Route 3 South. Go to the first stop light, and turn right on the Route 66 Spur. We will meet in the parking lot. If you want to arrive early to explore the old bridge on foot, feel free to do so. The poker hands will be purchased at the



# Gateway GTO Activities



beginning of the cruise with the first card being drawn at the bridge. We will leave promptly at 11:30, and travel old Route 66. The first stop will be the "Luna", an old road house that recently restored its vintage neon sign. It is a classic cocktail glass shape containing a cherry. As the story goes if the cherry is lit red it means that ladies of the evening are available. If it is not lit, you can just pick a second card in the parking lot. You can enter if you wish; however, it is a little on the rough side as there have been a couple of recent shootings reported in the local paper.



We will travel past the marquee (on the left) for the Bel Air Drive In Theater, continuing to Route 157. We will briefly leave Route 66 detouring to Glen Carbon to drive through the old covered bridge and view the historic Yanda Log Cabin. We will continue to Route 159, rejoining Route 66 in Edwardsville. The next stop will be Weezy's Route 66 Restaurant and Bar in Hamel where we will stop for lunch and the liquid refreshment of your choice. The third card will be drawn at this stop.



Our next stop will be the "Rabbit Farm" Staunton, IL where a number of VW Rabbits have arrived at their final resting place. There is also a collection of old neon signs and other automobilia. The fourth card will be drawn at this stop. We will continue on to Country Classics Cars where we will make a stop to inspect their inventory, if time per-



# Gateway GTO Activities



mits, and draw the fifth card.

On to Mount Olive stopping for a photo op at the old restored Shell station and the Mother Jones Monument, <http://www.il66assoc.org/attraction/mother-jones-monument>, where the sixth card will be drawn. We will continue our travels through Litchfield on to the Wooden Nickel Winery and Saloon. It is affiliated with the Crown Valley Winery. The final card will be drawn at the winery and the players will select their best 5 card poker hand. After some relaxation and a toast to the winner, those who are interested can stay for diner at the Ariston Restaurant in Litchfield, <http://www.ariston-cafe.com/>. If you have not been there before it is a "classic" Route 66 stop with a wide selection of great food and drink, topped off with your server bringing a huge tray of dessert selections to your table! Hard to resist!!

Litchfield is just off I-55 so you will be able to return home on the "Super Slab" if you have had enough of life in the "Slow Lane".



Sounds great doesn't it? For planning purposes Will needs a head-count of participants and the number of poker hands to be played by each participant. Please let Will ([wwbdsb@yahoo.com](mailto:wwbdsb@yahoo.com)) know how many are coming and how many hands will be played by each as soon as possible.

**GATEWAY GTO ASSOCIATION**  
**Membership / Renewal Form**  
(Please print clearly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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 with check to:**

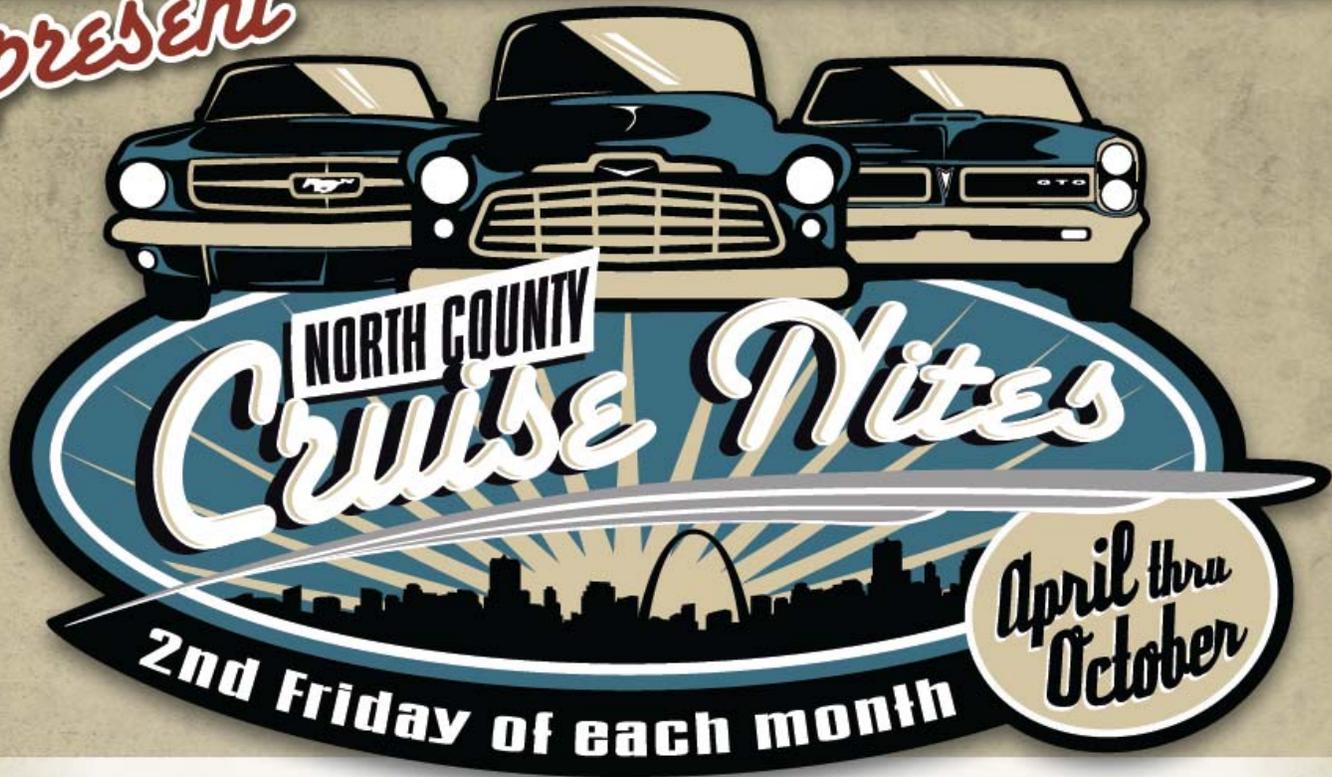
Will Bowers, Treasurer  
Gateway GTO Association  
1 Goshen Woods Lane  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Membership dues are \$20.00 per year,  
which includes you and one associate member (spouse, girlfriend, etc.).

**ALL NEW MEMBERS AFTER MARCH 1, 2009 MUST BE GTOAA MEMBERS IN ORDER TO JOIN GATEWAY GTO**

# Gateway GTO & Behlmann *Association* Buick GMC

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Email to [nctycruisenites@aol.com](mailto:nctycruisenites@aol.com) for additional info

**Gateway GTO Club Dyno Day**  
**Hosted by STL Tuners**  
**April 21, 2012**

Cost: \$45 for three pulls

Time: 9AM until the last car is done.

Location: STL Tuners  
3950 E. Dietrich Lane  
Foristell, MO 63348

Special Notes: There is a motorcycle dyno available on sight, as well as Ford and Chrysler tuning software.

Unfortunately no tuning will be done at this time. If you wish you can set an appointment with Omer at a later date for one on one tuning.

As in previous years the Club will be grilling Brats (compliments of Harry Timmerman) and hotdogs. Soft drinks will also be provided to those running on the Dynos.

If you'd like to caravan to STL Tuners, we'll meet in Culpepper's parking lot (Zumbehl Rd. & I-70 in St. Charles) at 8AM for a prompt 8:15AM departure.



# 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!**

## 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- GTOAA Member (200 points\*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Have GTO featured in a National Pub (40 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

### Total Points for Month

Submit completed form at GGTOA monthly meeting or to:  
 S. Wollmershauser  
 1948 A Sidney Street  
 St. Louis, MO 63041

\*Report on points form submitted month of GTOAA registration or renewal.

## 2012 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 7 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- April 4 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 8 Easter Car Show at Forrest Park. Classic cars on the upper lot, new age GTO's on the lower lot. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 13 North County Cruise Night sponsored by Behlmann Buick/GMC and Gateway GTO Association at Behlmann on the 2nd Friday of each month April-October (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 14 JJ's Cruises at 1215 S. Duschene in St. Charles second Saturday of the month April-October
- 15 Ranken Car Show. Click [HERE](#) for details. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 21 Dyno Day at STL.Tuners, LLC, details to follow. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 21 Bowling Event, details to follow (CLUB SPONSORED)
- May 2 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 11 North County Cruise Night sponsored by Behlmann Buick/GMC and Gateway GTO Association at Behlmann on the 2nd Friday of each month April-October (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 12 JJ's Cruises at 1215 S. Duschene in St. Charles second Saturday of the month April-October
- 12 Cruise to Hannibal, MO & Loafers Car Show. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 19 Illinois Old Route 66 Poker Run. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 28 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cobblestone Nationals at Fast Lane Classic Cars

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### Gateway GTO Classifieds

Used GM Radiator. Contact Joe May-weather if you are interested



SEE THE FULL CALENDAR AT [WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG](http://WWW.GATEWAYGTO.ORG)

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636-937-2770  
[chriswinslow@charter.net](mailto:chriswinslow@charter.net)

## 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 \$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



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**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](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 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.

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