



THE HOOD SCOOP

MARCH 2013

**Gateway GTO
Association**



GTO of the Month

My GTO

By Tod Leible



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My fascination with cars started around 1973 when my father purchased a 1971 Dodge Challenger RT, a 383 magnum that literally shook the ground when it idled. I spent hours in the garage with my dad fetching tools and asking him thousands of questions and soon realized I was hooked! I can't even begin to tell all the good times we had in that car and smiles that were wiped from many faces when the stoplight turned green. He never really did any mods to the car other than keeping it looking new.

In 1979 he sold the Challenger and that was the end of my father's muscle car era. It saddened me since I was turning 16 the following year, but not all was lost. After working at McDonalds and saving my \$\$\$ I bought a 1969 Mustang Fastback black on black with a 351 Windsor....oh and did I mention it was a barn find with 4 flat tires and a dead battery in Brazeau, MO (near Perryville). So after spending several hundred dollars just to get it back to St Louis it marked the beginning of my own era in muscle cars and like most of my friends they too were pretty much into muscle cars.

I remember the day my buddy pulled up in front of my house in his

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THE HOOD SCOOP

newly acquired car, a 1969 GTO Carousel Red with a 400HO engine and the Ram Air hood, this thing was a beast, not all the fenders were strait and the paint had seen better days but these were the cars we could afford and he also was the one friend that I could never beat in a drag race but I certainly enjoyed trying and also cruising in it. To this day I'm sure there's still some tire rubber on Midland Blvd from all the drag races in my teenage years.

Before I knew it I had graduated high school, got married and started family thus suspending my muscle car days. Today I have 2 children, my son Joel 25 who is stationed at Dyess AFB in Abilene TX and my Daughter Lauren 19 in college currently living in Kirksville, MO. Ok I got a bit sidetracked there so I think it was back in 2005 I took a trip to Detroit to visit my brother, I'm standing outside the airport waiting to be picked up and he comes pulling up in a 2005 TR M6 GTO, I immediately start asking him about the car, he gave me little background on car and at that point I just wanted my turn behind the wheel, Soon after I got my opportunity to take it for a spin and was very impressed and would have like to get one but at the time the budget just didn't allow it but I still knew I was going to give it serious considerations when the budget did allow for a new toy which brings us to today.

I acquired the GTO from a young man that realized that making the car payment, paying for premium unleaded and maintenance costs were way beyond what he signed on for thus putting the car for sale after only 4 months of ownership, when I located the car it had taken a pretty good beating and was wearing 3 different shoes.....the motor was strong but the rest of the car suffered from all the classic problems everyone faces with late model GTO ownership but I knew for the right price, it's all repairable. After some intense negotiations we agreed on a price and finally the day came

for me to pick up the car and even though it drove pretty poorly the power and torque seem to make all the other problems seem minuscule.

I've slowly been putting it back together starting with tires & tie rod ends both of which were so bad that the car wouldn't pass inspection. After getting the car to pass and driving it for a while I started to notice little things like only one wheel applying power to the ground, this happened randomly so I decided it was time to start looking for the fix, after researching I decided to go with the Eaton Truetrac and the stock gears 3.42's and all new bearing and seals and a Lovells Diff insert. I would like to mention that if you do rebuild one, for the pinion seal and axle seals USE GM's not the aftermarket ones.

I then moved on to the shifter, clutch and transmission, So one day I'm driving home from work and decided to take the back roads home.....why? I can't tell you but I'm certainly glad I did because a shift from 3rd to 4th broke the shifter handle off in my hand, now I'm stuck in 4th gear and look up and see a transmission shop and immediately pull in. After having some laughs at my expense as to what the look on my face must have been as I'm going down the road looking at the broken shifter in my hand. In the end they were nice enough to engineer a temporary shifter for free so that I can get home. Now there's a B&M shifter installed and so far its works fine. I then decided it was time for a new clutch and have the transmission freshened up. I had a Center-force DFX clutch & Flywheel installed and well....since you're there change out the slave cylinder and pilot bearing, all new hydraulic & lines and a speed bleeder so it's now a one man job.

Next on the list..... The suspension, all I can say is after you put on an aftermarket kit like Lovells eliminator kit you'll question how

you were able to drive such an ill handling car for so long. I have the Eliminator kit stock height, poly strut mounts and bearing and adjustable radius rod bushings and I'm extremely pleased with the results.

I then started thinking I wanted a cat-back system, I liked the stock sound ok but I wanted something slightly more aggressive and something to play well with headers when that day comes. So one day I'm trolling eBay and see a 3" Magnaflow performance exhaust listed at as buy it now or best offer, now this is where I learned a valuable lesson about eBay, When you make a best offer and the seller accepts YOU OWN IT! The good news is that my offer was much less J so much so that

when it was accepted I started to think I just bought a huge box of air but everything worked out great. The last item installed was the SvedeSpeed OTRCIA, this was actually a fun install. I'm not sure that it provides better actual airflow than say a K&N but I like the appearance, also it if you break out you IAT sensor from the MAF it gives more accurate readings when relocated into the SS Intake.

Overall I have a pretty good start on getting it where I want it.....my next item on the to do list is a tune. Then it's time to save for more goodies.





Presidents Scoop



The Presidents Scoop By Mark Melrose

Something has been bothering me for several years now. No, I don't have some disease or maybe I do. When Detroit began building their latest generations of high performance cars I immediately noticed that *Mustangs* were being called "Musclecars" and Chrysler Corporation had the unmitigated nerve to lay claim to the invention of the "First Musclecar" in early advertising for their new *Charger*.

What gives? As we all know, the original "Musclecar" was the 1964 Pontiac *GTO* and that same model year saw the creation of another vehicle class – the "Pony Car" in Ford's *Mustang*. The "Musclecar" was defined as a mid-size two-door mounting a full-size V8 engine – with the *GTO* deriving from the *Tempest/LeMans* platform. The "Pony Car" began as a slang term for the *Mustang* which originally was nothing more than the *Falcon* compact class car with different sheetmetal. The fact that these two vehicles captured the souls of so many youthful buyers spawned the two new vehicle classes when competitors began to build and market equivalent cars. Back then *GTOs*, *SS Chevelles*, *Olds 442s*, *Buick Grand Sports*, *Dodge Chargers*, *Plymouth GTXs and Roadrunners*, *Ford Torino GTs*, *Mercury Montego GTs* and *AMC Rebel Machines* were members of the "Musclecar" class. Likewise *Mustangs*, *Camaros*, *Firebirds*, *Cougars*, *Barracudas*, *Challengers* and *AMXs* constituted the "Pony Car" class.

By 2003 the only one of these nameplates left on the market was the *Mustang* which was the only Detroit-built high performance car available other than the *Corvette*. Today, Motown's marketing mavens have continued the *Mustang* and resurrected the *Camaro*, *Charger* and *Challenger* nameplates while designating them all as "Musclecars" – even in V6 iterations and some inexplicably with four doors. The "Pony Car" as a vehicle class has gone the way of buggywhips.

What has the world come to? I seem to remember that was the same question adults were asking in the sixties. Apparently, then as now, we are at the mercy of Detroit's marketing machinations. Upon reflection, if I have a disease it is the memory of what once was versus what now is. But the really sad part is the loss of the most storied original nameplates – *GTO*, *SS Chevelle*, *442*, *Grandsport* and *Roadrunner* – which literally defined the term "Musclecar" as a class of its own.

While registration is closed for display in the Easter Show in Forest Park, don't miss out on the opportunity to come see some of the best true "Musclecars"

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





Gateway GTO Meeting Minutes



GGTOA Minutes: 3/6/2013

7:14PM – Meeting start

7:16 – New member Dave Demsko has 1967 GTO. There are three other new members that were not present at the meeting.

7:18 – Some Club Calendars are still available

7:18 – New business – Mark spoke to Ryan Graham about car shows May-September, on the first Saturday of the month at Heritage Landing. GTO Club is planning on being at the first show on June 1st. It's being held at the St. Charles County Heritage Museum at Heritage Landing near highway 94 and 364.

7:22 – Discussion of Behlmann. New management has still not paid last year's sponsorship. We are looking for new sponsors. Possibly Complete Autobody on North Lindberg. North County cruise nights may be at this new location.

7:26 – Gauging interest in satin club jackets. Jackets without embroidery could cost \$30 to \$50. Kathleen Ewans said that she may be able to get them cheaper. New hats may be available soon. Mark will send out a club e-mail about the new hats.

7:32 – Upcoming events. Easter Show in March 31st. As of the meeting there are still spots available

7:34 – Poker run still TBD

7:35 – Discussion of e-mail from Shauna about Tail of the Dragon run. Details to follow.

7:37 – Darryl and Tootie will be putting a cruise together in May

7:38 – Overnight cruise on June 22nd and 23rd. It will run south through Jefferson City with stay at a historic hotel in Booneville. If we get 8 rooms then we get 20% off of the room rate. Sunday will cruise back to a winery.

7:42 – Gauging interest in possible cruise to Springfield to the Lincoln Museum in May

7:45 – Discussion of co-vention in Dayton Ohio. Activities will be open within a week or so. Hotels are filling up quickly. Everything will be at the Nutter Center. Chapter reception on Thursday followed by parking lot party. Brunch on Saturday afternoon will be the awards banquet. You can sign up for both GTOAA and POCI.

7:47 – GGTOA will be 100% GTOAA membership this year.

7:49 – Discussion of fliers for multiple shows and events including car shows and Gateway swap meet.

7:51 – Club personals. Debbie Friedman's brother passed away on February 22nd. Terry and Carol Schneider's grandson Mason was born on February 3rd.

7:53 – Discussion of car show at Joe Mayweather's church later this summer.

7:54 – Pinball event on Saturday March 23rd. Contact Marty by e-mail

7:55 – Marty had free Oscar movie posters available to anyone at the meeting

7:58 – Motion to adjourn by Karen Ewans

8:00 – Saundra's auto trivia

8:27 – 50/50 winner of \$32 – Gail Schott





Gateway GTO Activities



OH WHAT A NIGHT! STARS AND CARS GALA EVENT FEBRUARY 23, 2013 (by Terrie Oxler)

Thanks to our event party planner, Scarlet O'Hara, (aka Sandra Melrose), this was another memorable party for the Gateway GTO Club. Many months of planning, trying to get Mark to cooperate with a costume choice, some "hiccups" along the way but we had the perfect location, Westport Sheraton's The View Room, perfect décor and centerpieces, perfect music provided by Arvell and Vincent, and perfect take home favors of glitzy photo frames of our pictures taken by the paparazzi (aka Sandra's niece). Dinner was scrumptious as were the desserts.

And as usual, the club members took it to heart and dressed for the occasion. Everyone "went the extra mile" to include even the smallest addition to their costumes, i.e., Granny Clampett cooked a batch of moonshine that day and shared the jug, John Wayne made sure his spurs did not injure his dancing partners, the Dictator let everyone know he was a down-to-earth type of guy and you could call him "Dick" as it was embroidered on his pocket, and Hugh Hefner made sure he knew where his bunny's tail was all evening !! The Blues Brothers put on an outstanding show and Buford T. Justice kept the peace with this wild GTO-loving crowd.

But the highlight of the evening had to be our Marilyn Monroe! She posed for the cameras while sitting in the laps of the not-too-shy men of the club. She pranced around the room and dragged people to the dance floor and even sang "Happy Birthday" to our forever treasurer as only Marilyn could. Our Marilyn, (aka Barb Lewis), was the life of this party!

Trivia games about cars and movies – I could go on and on!





Gateway GTO Activities





Gateway GTO Activities



And Awards!!

Best Actress: Barb Lewis

Best Actor: Earl Lewis

Famous Person: Steve Hedrick

Most Original: Tom Oxler

Best Couple: Mike and Kathleen Ewens and Terry and Gail Schott.

Best Comedy Couple: Brian and Andrew O'Sullivan and Terry and Gail Schott.

Oh What A Night! When is our next event where we can dress up, have an awesome time, and hang out with people we truly do enjoy calling our friends ???

Because we shared an interest in Pontiac GTOs and joined the fantastic Gateway GTO Club have we been able to make so many memories of fun times.



ARE YOU FEELING LUCKY?

The Second Annual Gateway GTO Poker Run is scheduled for Saturday April 27th.

This year, there will be NO charge for participation. Each car will receive a black hand and a red hand to play. There will be 7 cards drawn at the 7 stops. Participants will select the 5 best cards to make their hand. The Gateway GTO Club will fund \$100.00 for the best poker hand and \$50.00 for the next best hand.

At 1:00 PM, we will meet at the Confluence Tower, located on IL Route 3, about 5 miles North of I-270. The tower is privately owned with 3 viewing platforms. The highest rises 150 ft. in the air. It affords an outstanding view of the confluence of Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, the surrounding wet lands, as well as the beautiful refineries in Hartford, IL. Groups of 20 or more receive a discounted rate of \$3.00 to take the tour. The regular cost is \$4 per person. This is the stop where you will receive your first card.

You will receive your second card at the Alton Museum of History and Art located in Upper Alton located on the former campus of the old Shurtleff College. The college is now the SIUE Dental School. Here we will have an opportunity to learn about Elijah P. Lovejoy, a noted newspaper publisher and abolitionist, the Underground Railroad and Robert Wadlow the tallest person on record. The cost is regularly \$5 per person; however, we will receive a reduced rate of \$2.00 if we have 15 or more participants. We will walk directly across the street where you will have the opportunity to have your picture taken with the life size statue of Mr. Wadlow.

You will receive your third card at the Lovejoy Monument located in the historic Alton Cemetery. This is the tombstone of Elijah P Lovejoy. Surprisingly, this monument is reputed to be the tallest one in Illinois.

From here will travel on Broadway Avenue past the historic Lincoln-Douglas Square on the left side of the street where their last debate drew national attention. Statues of the two statesmen are located there to memorialize the debate. We will not be stopping.

You will receive your fourth card at the River View Park, located in the Historic Christian Hill District. This park has a beautiful overlook of the Mississippi River.

We will then travel up the Great River Road passing by the Legendary Piasa Bird depicted on the cliff at Piasa Park. The drawing depicts a part bird, reptile mammal that was reputed to be able to carry off fully grown warriors after developing a taste for human flesh. (Yum) The earliest record of the drawing is contained in the diaries of Joliet and Marquette.

Traveling further up the River Road we will briefly tour the Historic Village of Elsah, IL and stop to draw our fifth card. The architecture found in Elsah demonstrates 19th century styles including Greek revival, Gothic Revival, Mansard, Italianate, Saltbox and Garbrel. Elsah is also home of The Principia College. The only Christian Scientist College in the world.

Continuing up the river road to Grafton, IL where we will make our sixth stop at Loading Dock. The Loading Dock has no historical significance but is noted for their cold Beer. Here we can have a cold one and take in a beautiful view of the river; as well as, draw our sixth card.

Continuing on the River Road, we will drive to the Lodge at Pere Marquette State Park.

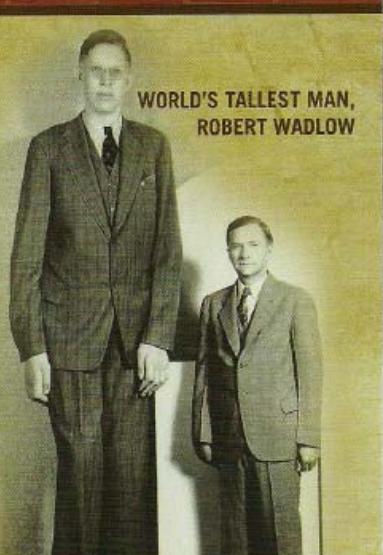
The Lodge houses a tasting room for the Mary Michelle Winery located in Carrollton, IL. Here we can sample the wine, draw the seventh card; put together our poker hands and toast the winners. From the tasting room we will adjourn to the lodge's restaurant for dinner. If our party is 20 or more we will not be able to order from the menu but will enjoy their great fried chicken including side dishes, served family style, for \$15 per person. After dinner feel free to stay for additional adult beverages or further explore the area on your own.



Alton Museum of History and Art



SPECIAL EXHIBITS



WORLD'S TALLEST MAN,
ROBERT WADLOW



ELIJAH P. LOVEJOY

LEGEND OF THE
PIASA BIRD



Alton Museum of History and Art

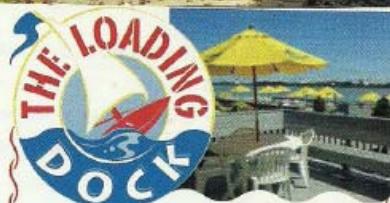
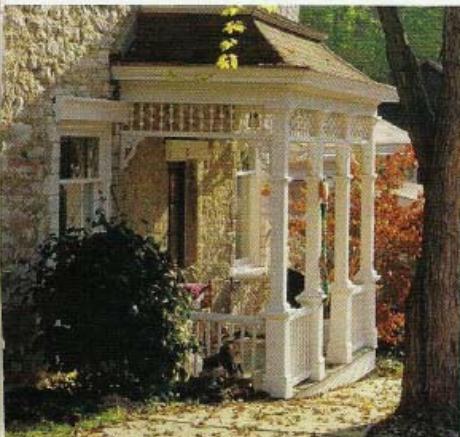
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Date: 06/15 & 16/2013

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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) _____

Have GTO featured in a National Pub (40 Points) _____

Total Points for Month

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

2013 GATEWAY GTO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 3 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 12 North County Cruise Night on the 2nd Friday of each month April-October. Sponsor and location TBD. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 13 JJ's Cruises at 1215 S. Duschene in St. Charles second Saturday of the month April-October
- TBD April – Club Poker Run, date and route TBD. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- May 1 GTO MEETING 7pm J.J.'s 1215 S. Duchesne, St Charles, Mo, 63301 (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 10 North County Cruise Night on the 2nd Friday of each month April-October. Sponsor and location TBD. (CLUB SPONSORED)
- 11 JJ's Cruises at 1215 S. Duschene in St. Charles second Saturday of the month April-October
- 11-12 *Tail of the Dragon* run, details to follow
- 27 24th Annual Cobblestone Nationals at Fast Lane Classic Cars
- TBD Club Illinois Cruise, date and route TBD. (CLUB SPONSORED)

Gateway GTO Classifieds

1949 Pontiac 2-door Coupe Deluxe model 2527D Silver Streak. Straight 8, Hydramatic transmission, older restoration - interior and paint in very good condition, straight & rust free (originally from ID/UT), always garaged, 76,800 miles. \$14,000 neg. Car located near Dayton, OH. Contact George, Noon-8PM eastern, (937)236-0989

More Photos at:

<http://photobucket.com/Georges49Pontiac>





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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.

Advertising Guidelines

Classified ads up to 50 words are free to members; add 10 cents per word for any ad over 50 words. Payment is due upon submission. (members need to update ads at 3 month intervals or ads will be dropped). Classified ads up to 50 words for non-members are \$5.00 per issue.

Gateway GTO Club Information

The Gateway GTO Association was initially formed in the summer of 1984 by a group of seven. They all had a common interest in the Original Muscle Car, the Pontiac GTO. As a form of communication we publish a monthly newsletter called “The Hood Scoop”. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our members informed of all upcoming activities as well as providing interesting event coverage. The club meets every first Wednesday of the month at J. J.’s Restaurant, 1215 S. Duchesne Rd, St. Charles, Mo. 63301.

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

Club Sponsor



820 McDonnell Blvd.

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www.behlmann.com



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

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is an official chapter of the
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www.gtoaa.org

**Visit us at
www.gatewaygto.org or
www.gatewaygto.com**

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