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GTO Association of Maine January 2000

OPENING REMARKS

What weather!! It's nearing the end of November and I had the GTO out for a blast last night. It all started with a stranger showing up to buy a couple of parts. Since he had driven three hours from New Hampshire, I figured he deserved the full tour. Despite the long ride ahead of him, he was content to hang around while I fixed my tail lights. I was ecstatic to find nothing but a bad fuse. When the broad hint for a ride was issued, I had no hesitation to filling the request. A couple of 3 carb passes down the back roads and it was summer again (except the top was up).

A couple of parts sold, a couple more traded, a few stories shared, and a late fall blast in a GTO. We parted as friends and the club had a new member.

I tell this story for a couple of reasons. First because Fred always is a sucker for my "sentimental" writing so I know I'll get at least one piece of feedback for this newsletter. Second because I wanted to reflect on how the hobby is changing for me. Over the last couple of years my interest in cars has broadened. I started out with GTO's and that'll always be #1. A few years ago

Rose and I got a Firebird because she favors a smaller car. Cool it's a Pontiac. Somewhere along the way we started to get interested in Street Rods so we got the '39 to do, then this led to buying a '37 29,000 mile original 4 dr sedan. Rose needed transportation so a '98 SSEi Bonneville was the car of choice. Then a '89 Formula for my summer transportation. Volunteering at Owl's Head strengthened the interest in older cars so a '29 Ford Model A jitterbug came home. Now obviously the collection of cars is getting obsessive but I've been working here to get to some of the drive behind all this. OK Fred here comes the "sentimental" part. The biggest reason to expand on all these interests is the people. The more varied cars you have, the more people you come into contact with. Rose and I have been doing some of the bigger national and regional Pontiac and GTO events for the last few years. We've got to know many people that we see each year at these events. Cruise nights – these have become my favorite. They're quick and intense. Cars? what cars? I was talking to.... This club – our events this year were very well attended. I've also gotten closer with several people in the

club this year and look forward to more of this. OHTM – working on cars that are so rare is pretty amazing. I look forward to Thurs nights and seeing all the guys (and talking A's). What's the point? – Just get out, help someone else in the hobby, come to a club event, go to a cruise night, and above all have a happy holiday season. Nice talking to you, by the way you got a car around here somewhere?

Wellll if that got you all misty eyed, come on down and spend some quality time with me on the underside of the Firebird. If it made you want to get even send my your “auto”biography or any other prose you'd like me to fire out to the GTOAA.

JIM WANGERS

Speaking of late fall cruise action – you should have seen Paul and Julie Johnson with down coats on cruising over in their convertible. Fantastic Day! Jim's talks are always interesting. It's just great to be in the presence of such a great figure in the GTO world. His presentation started around 2:30 and I'm told he went to 6:10. Don't pass up another chance to see him if you can help it!

SHOW CAR

Paul & Pam Bourbeau's beautiful '67 was selected by Cruisin' New England Magazine to be in their Top 100 showdown. To get in this show you need to be selected at one of the shows leading up to the event. They were selected at the Fun in the Sun meet at Lebanon Valley NY. Congratulations!

MEMBERSHIP

56 Current Members. I'm sure this is a record!

NEW MEMBERS

Wayne & Channon Jones – Lubec – '66 Conv
Dave Delorey and Shani Levensaler – Jefferson – '66 Catalina
Peter and Marilyn Lugner – Winthrop – '67 Lemans Conv
Mark & Donna Westphal – Union, NH – '69 Lemans-'65 GTO-'65 Lemans

T SHIRTS/SWEAT SHIRTS

We are again well stocked!
Sweats - \$20
Shirts \$10
Hats \$5
Add \$3 shipping per order

Send \$\$ to Joanna's address above

WEB PAGE

Send me a picture of your car if I don't have it already. I'd like to have a picture of everyone's cars on the net. If you have one with you in it as well that'll be even better. Even if you don't have access I'll have all the pics in the club photo album as well.

Get those parts wanted/for sale ads to me as well. If you've sold stuff, let me know so I can remove it from the list.

GTOAA

Are you a member? If you aren't, consider (strongly) joining today. Dues are a mere \$30 send to:

GTO Association of America
5829 Stroebel Rd
Saginaw, MI 48609

of interest, I'll get it in the next issue.
Until then stay warm!

DUES

Several members are paid for 2000. If you're not one of them how about sending \$10 into Joanna today. Getting a jump on this sure helps us make those summer months much less hectic.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Looking for input. "Auto"biographies of you, the family or the car. Tech tips – large or small. Any item of interest to the GTO community will be greatly appreciated.

CLOSING REMARKS

It's been awhile since the last newsletter but hey it's that time of year. I wrote the largest part of this at the end of November as a December issue but with the holidays and

The days are now growing longer and it won't be long until we are back out cruising. With the weather we've had this year it hasn't been long since I was in the GTO last. The recent sand and salt may be finally ending all that.

OK I'm rambling now. If anyone can mail or e-mail me what's up with their car, their life or anything else