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GTO Association of Maine June 2001

OPENING REMARKS

It's with mixed feelings that I step down as President of GTOAM. I've enjoyed being the leader for the last few years but it's a nice feeling to defer the decisions to someone else. I'll still be doing the newsletter so that will keep me plenty involved.

Car season is officially in full swing now that Bonny Eagle has come and gone. What a beautiful day! Lots of cars as usual. Look below for some upcoming Pontiac shows as well as the MAAC calendar for the latest on the Maine events.

ANNUAL MEETING

The turnout for the Annual meeting was great! I'd say we had close to a dozen member vehicles present. We ate inside and had just enough seats. The big news was the officer elections. Unlike most chapters GTOAM decided not to have just a President - we have a King!! Mike King that is. Mike's

assumed the President's duties. I'll remain (only) as Newsletter Editor, Joanna keeps the \$\$\$\$ and Paul Johnson comes back as VP (he had that position a few years ago). We lined up our schedule for the rest of the season so the membership can block their schedules now - read on

"AUTO" BIOGRAPHY

How's this for good timing - here's one on our new President Mike King

It was a dark and stormy night. Seriously, my interest was piqued in 1964 when I saw a silver '64 GTO at a Norridgewock Airport Drag Racing Event. I was still in high school, and economics forced me to get a '57 Chevy instead of a GTO. (I still have the second '57 Chevy I bought in 1968.) My older brother came home from his hitch in the Army with a '57 Pontiac Catalina from North Carolina. It was blue and white with no rust, and further whetted my interest in Pontiacs. In 1966, I graduated from high school and got a job at

Nichol's Pontiac on State Street in Augusta, another boost to my interest in Pontiacs. In January of 1969 I went to serve some time in the U.S. Navy and got an early out in October of 1970. Unfortunately, GTO had run into EPA and insurance problems by then, so I put off my first Pontiac purchase for a while longer. I devoted my time and energy to drag racing my '57 Chevy. This activity slowed down a GTO purchase for a few more years. It was 1980 before I found the right GTO for me—a 1964 black tri-power 4 speed car loaded with factory options. It was from the North East, but had never been driven in the winter. I talked with the original owner and he mailed me the window sticker and other information. The car had been set up for drag racing by the original owner, so I found myself doing the opposite of what I had done to my '57 Chevy. I renovated the GTO back to its' original state. In December of 1983, I started by redoing the engine back to stock condition. The transmission and shifter also received a rebuild. In October of 1984 body work was started. The car was stripped to bare metal and original black lacquer paint was applied. While the paint was drying, the rear end (4:56 12 bolt) was removed and was replaced with a 10 bolt with a street gear in it. In April of 1985 the paint was buffed and chrome trim was installed. In July of 1985 I went to Pontiac, Michigan for my first national event. I learned that my car didn't fit neatly into any class so it was placed in the Modified Class (not good). But it was a fun trip and a good break-in for a freshly restored car. Since that time I have put on original wheels and tires along with a few other changes, and taken home several first place trophies at national Pontiac/Oakland events. The last few years have been spent

participating in local cruise nights and GTO club functions, with attendance at an occasional national event when held in the North East.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 10 - NorEastern Chapter POCI presents the 9th Annual Pontiac Buick Show at the Budweiser Brewery in Merrimac, NH

July 7 - GTOAM goes on the Kno-Wal-Lin Hospice Car Program Car Cruise

July 8 - 50's-60's Auto Meet/ MAAC Annual Event at Owls Head Transportation Museum

July 13-17 GTOAA Nationals in Red Wing, MN (contact Charlie for info)
July 18-21 POCI Nationals in Red Wing, MN (contact Charlie for info)

August 19 - GTOAM Pool Party at Charlie and Rose's

August 24-26 GTO Eastern Regionals in Parsippany, NJ

GTOAM - NEXT EVENT

Mike and Joanna are hosting our next event on July 7. They've elected to jump in with the Kno-Wal-Lin Hospice Care Program Car Cruise. The Cruise starts at OHTM at 9:00 and returns to the Museum at 1:00. Chicken and Lobster dinners are available. This should be a fun cruise and supports a good cause. Check out the Info sheet and get your application in today!!

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to:

Robert James of Gardiner. Robert is looking for a GTO

Mark and Leanne Brainerd of W. Cumberland. They have a '64 Catalina

Gary and Rose Dawbin or Winthrop. They have just purchased a '66 GTO

T SHIRTS/SWEAT SHIRTS

Joanna has a big new stock!!!!

Sweats - \$20

Shirts \$10

Hats \$5

Add \$3 shipping per order

Send \$\$ to Joanna's address above

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

DUES

Hey I didn't bug you for them in the last newsletter! Time to pay up for the 2001 season. If you haven't already sent them in please do it right now while you're thinking of it. Send to Joanna's address please!!!

CLOSING

OK we're in the thick of the season now. Bonny Eagle is past and the pace just keeps picking up from here. Hope we can have a great turnout for the Kno-Wal-Lin cruise. Get out to those cruise ins, shows and events even if you car isn't show ready. Thanks to Mike (and Vicki for her help) on the "auto"biography. Thanks to Fred and Susan for the photos below. Hope to see all of you in the near future!



Mike explains exhaust customizing techniques that make for a 1st place National car.



GTOAM lineup in front of "Stick to Your Ribs"