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GTO Association of Maine August 2001

OPENING REMARKS

I had hoped to get this issue out before leaving for Red Wing but instead it's become the top priority to get out now that I'm back. The main thing is to get the pool party date on your calendar!

Red Wing was awesome! If you've never been to a nation convention you're missing out. You can still partake in the next best thing if you plan on the Eastern Regionals at the end of August.

Kno-Wal-Lin Hospice Care Program Car Cruise

This turned out to be quite an event. Over 30 cars gathered at OHTM for the first and hopefully annual cruise. We had a gorgeous day and the event was run very well. They had coffee, muffins, and water available at the start. After drawing the first card for a poker run, we took a winding route up the coast to Belfast and headed right down RT 1 for the return. A detour through Bayville was a throw back to the 30's.

The locals were out in force to cheer us on. We made a couple of stops in the Senior Car facilities and were given summer treats. We finished at OHTM for a lobster bake or chicken BBQ. President Mike showed up with a new set of Hurst Wheels and better yet nothing fell off his car this trip. Keep this one in mind for next year, it's a class event.

RED WING

I just returned from the GTOAA and POCI nationals in Red Win, MN. This was a great time. The long drive was worth it as both shows were at the same location. Through the e-mail lists I "met" Tom Sexton near Chicago. I stayed near his house on the way out. He came to my hotel and gave me a ride in his RA V (no typo Ram Air Five) Firebird. We also took the GTO to a local cruise in - about 500 cars!!

1619 miles total later I made Red Wing. I got in just in time to hear Paul Zazarine who wrote the "GTO Restoration Guide". I also attended a

seminar by John Gunnell who wrote the "75 Years of Pontiac" and "75 Years of Pontiac Oakland". Other speakers included Jim Mattison of Pontiac Historical Services, John Sawruck - Pontiac's Official Historian, and Jim Butler of Butler Performance Pontiac just to name a few. I can't say enough of what it's like to mingle with these Pontiac Greats.

One great event was a cruise of 30+ GTOs through the MN and WI country side. We had many great overlooks of the Mississippi. The highlight was a tour of "Elmer's" Elmer collects toys in a big way. His collection includes 4000 pedal cars. He also had quite a few cars including a 66 Royal Bobcat GTO and a Corvette with 5.4 miles on it. We ended the day with a trivia contest about sights on the trip. The host chapter had prizes for a least 1/2 of the people on the trip.

The Swap meet was, as usual, a source for many hours diversion. Bill Albair was able to arrange a business trip to the area. He managed to get up in the wee hours to get his work done and then came over to the convention. I don't think we missed looking at a single part between the two of us. I wound up with a set of reclining '66 buckets. Packing the trunk and luggage for the ride home is a story in itself.

The GTO convention finished with the Show on Monday and the drags on Tuesday. Arnie Beswick was on hand for the drags and ran 7.48 1/4 mile times. I had a great time checking out all the action with Bill. We also saw GTOAM members Paul and Pam Bourbeau at the track.

I wasn't so sad for the show to end as the Pontiac were already showing up for the POCI convention. The swap meet gathered strength and the show

went on. Pontiac brought an impressive collection of cars including the first Pontiac ever made (1926), a 64 Banshee. Later on at the show a Bonneville Special was on site - driving around!!! Dennis Gage showed up to film a segment of "My Classic Car". The featured concert was Paul Revere and the Raiders. All and all it was a great time. I know this story is kind of long but I hope it show just how much happens at these national conventions. Next year's GTOAA convention will be in Denver, CO. POCI will be in Charleston, W VA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

August 24-26 GTO Eastern Regionals in Parsippany, NJ (Call Charlie for info 633-2904)

TBA - GTOAM Fall Cruise

GTOAM - NEXT EVENT

Sunday August 19 - Pool Party at Charlie & Rose Huntington's 214 Atlantic Ave, Boothbay Harbor. Figure starting around 11:00. We'll attempt a ride around Ocean Point and/or do Charlie's junkyard tour. The club will supply corn, salad, soda, and sides. You supply your main grillin' material and adult beverages. Lobster is available near by and it's no problem to boil it up here.

To find us:

1. Come down Rt, 27 to Boothbay Harbor
2. Straight through the lights in front of Shop & Save

3. Bear left at the Bank Time & Temp clock (really)
4. Go down Pear St just before the "Do Not Enter" sign
5. Left at end on to Union St
6. Right at end onto Atlantic Ave
7. 4/10 mile past the Fisherman statue at Brown Bros Hotel.

If you get lost call 633-2904

GTOAM - NEXT NEXT EVENT

GTOAM Fall Cruise. I'll publish the details as soon as I get them!!

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to:
Ken Reil of Rockland - no GTO (yet!)

DUES

Check the roster. If your status is not 2001 or later you need to send \$10 to Joanna ASAP!

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

CLOSING

Ok enough for now. Please contribute to the next issue with your "auto"biography, tech tips, anything!!! Please!



Here's the '70 Judges from Red Wing



GTOAM at Kno-Wal-Lin