



President: Mike King 724-3574 whlsndeals@aol.com
285 Spears Corner Rd, Gardiner, ME 04345

Newsletter Charlie Huntington 633-2904 badgoat@gwi.net
214 Atlantic Ave.Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538

Treasurer: Joannaa Monroe 594-7819
mjmonroe@midcoast.com
422 Spruce Head Rd South Thomaston, ME 04858

VP - Paul Johnson 439-2542 johnson@submepp.navy.mil
2 Greenwood St., Elliot, ME 03903

GTOAM web page:
www.badgoat.net

GTO Association of Maine September 2001

OPENING REMARKS

The season is winding down but it's far from over! Seems good to be spending a little time at home even if it means having to work on something or other every minute. Well I don't think I'm coming up with anything more earth shaking then that so let's move onto the news.

POOL PARTY

The forecast was grim but the weather turned out great. It was very hot inland so a day on the coast was what the doctor ordered.

Here's what Joanna had to say about it: "Hey Charlie and Rose, Wanted to send a note telling you what an awesome time we had at the pool party. Mike and I had a great day with the club at your place. I had a head count of 17 people! The weather was absolutely beautiful! Rose did a great job on the lobsters, clams + brownies and Ralph Turner did a fantastic job with the

grilling. The cars certainly had many eyes on them as people drove by the place, not to mention during the cruise around Ocean Point. We even picked up a motorcycle along the way. Thanks for a great day! Mike and Joanna"

Thanks for the kind words. I second the thanks to Rose for all the work she did to pull this off. I apologize to my guests for running off a couple of times to sell parts. I sold more that day then I have all summer. Thanks to everyone for coming down, it was indeed a great day.

GTOAM - NEXT EVENT **FALL FOLIAGE TOUR**

Sunday October 14th.

9am Breakfast at Cole Farms just off exit 11 of I-495 in Gray, ME. It is located on Rt4/100/202 1 mile from exit

9:30 North on Rt 26 to Norway

10:15 Stop at Snow Falls Gorge
10:30 North on Rt 26 to Bryant Pond
Right on Rt 232 to Rumford Corner Left
on Rt 2 to Newry
Right on Rt 26 to Grafton Notch State
Park

11:45 Stop at Grafton Notch State Park
and Screw Auger Falls

12:30 South on Rt 26 to Bethel

1pm Lunch at Sunday River
(Stonecoast) Brewery

2pm South on Rt 35 to Stoneham
Stop at the Famous Road Sign at
intersection of Rt 5 (Denmark, Norway,
Sweden etc) South on Rt 35 to Rt 37 to
Rt 117 to Bridgton

3pm Ice Cream at "The Gazebo" in
Bridgton

3:15 South on Rt 302 to North Windham

3:45 Head home: Left on Rt 115 to Gray
to go North on I 495 or Straight on Rt
302 to go to Portland or Right on Rt 35
to go to Berwick, Eliot Area

Mark your calendars to join us cruising
the beautiful Lakes Region of Maine.
Special thanks to Don Winchell for his
help with this cruise.

MISC NEWS

This just in from Paul Johnson

Dan Duncombe from Newport (Member
#65) wrote a letter to the editor that was
published in November 01 issue of HPP.
It talks about an Grand Prix Concept car

with the LS1 V-8 and the AWD system
from the Aztek. The car is shown on
page 42 on the June 01 issue of HPP.
Dan's letter encourages production of
this car. I have both the June article and
the November letter if you want copies.

"AUTO" BIOGRAPHY

This is turning into the Paul
Johnson issue. Believe me I appreciate
all the input. Without further ado here's
Paul's "auto" biography.

My love of cars comes from my father.
He always had the coolest cars of
anybody in the neighborhood. Not crazy
cars, just **nice** cars. Some of the cool
ones that I remember riding in were:

1960 white Buick LeSabre convertible
with red interior - Beautiful
1964 Buick Wildcat convertible with the
425 CI - Bright yellow no less
1966 Red Dodge Charger (only had the
318 CI, C'mon, Dad?) - First year of
the Charger
1970 Pontiac GTO convertible (mint
turquoise) - The one I'm driving now
1976 White Cadillac Eldorado
convertible (500 CI) - The hood
covered 2 acres

The Charger and the GTO were actually
driven mostly by my mother. She had a
heavy foot!

He always took extraordinary care of his
cars. We always did all of our own
maintenance. I can remember helping
him tune up one of the cars when I was a
young boy. I was sitting in the driver's
seat and would turn the engine on/off on
his command. While he had his head

buried under the hood, I thought I would blow the horn to see what would happen. He jumped up and smashed his head on the underside of the hood just like they did on television. I thought it was great but he wasn't too pleased about it.

Later on, when I became a teenager, I can remember those quality bonding experiences helping my father change exhaust components, in the barn, in February. The burning, the freezing, the busted knuckles and abrasions.

I learned to drive in a 1973 Buick Electra 225 (deuce and a quarter). We all agreed that it probably would be wiser for me to go take my driving test in that big Buick rather than the GTO. I did get to drive the GTO a lot. What a blast! At some point in time I said to my parents "Don't trade in the GTO. I would like to buy it from you when I graduate from college!" I didn't expect them to actually do it. I was just dreaming! But they somehow decided that's just what they would do. When I graduated from college in 1980, they sold me the car for \$1200.00 (Now, you are really jealous! Right?)

I had bodywork and a repaint in 1983. I rebuilt the engine (with the help of friends) in 1990. I drive it everyday I can in the summertime. The car hasn't seen a winter since 1981. The bodywork has held up well, but the paint is tired. The interior is showing the effects of 30 yrs of attack by the sun's rays.

So, now it's time to spruce the ole girl up again. Just after I finish this autobiography, I will be ordering all of the components for a whole new interior. Everybody tells me, "Awww, you can install that yourself." So we'll see. I

have also lined up a friend, that restores old cars, to help me strip and repaint my GTO. He has an awesome facility in his barn complete with a paint booth. All this should take place starting in October. We'll keep our fingers crossed.

Getting back to my dad, he still loves cars. He is now 76. When he was 70 he bought a 1995 Firebird Formula with the LT-1 engine (Wow, what a car!). It's good to see that he has "mellowed" in his old age. I hope I'm just like him!

NEW MEMBERS

Rand Butler of Union with a 65 Convertible
Chip & Diane Merrill of Dexter with a 70 Convertible
Larry & Kola Pelletier of St. Albans with a 70 Judge
Bob & Joan Farwell of N Waterboro with a 65 Convertible

A Hearty Welcome to all of you!!!!

DUES

Check the roster. If your status is not 2001 or later you need to send \$10 to Joanna ASAP! We've got lots of "slow moving" renewals, Note this is your last newsletter. Here's an idea send in \$20 and you'll be covered for next year!!!

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

BONUS EVENT

Sunday Sept 30 – The Owls Head Transportation Museum’s - Chevy and all GM meet at OHTM. The NOR-EASTERN chapter of POCI will be coming up to attend this event. I’ll be working to arrange parking for all the Pontiacs to be together. How about joining us in our Pontiac Power display!!!!

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. Thanks to Paul Johnson for all the contributions to this newsletter. How about the rest of you? Please contribute to the next issue with your "auto"biography, tech tips, anything!!! Even a short e-mail works wonders in this “Cut and Paste” age. Please!

Hope to see a lot of you at OHTM on Sept 30 and also for the cruise on Oct 14!!!



Ralph mans the Grill



GTOs all in a row



Ocean Point



Poolside