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## NEWSLETTER

## GTO Association of Maine September 2014

### President's Message

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*This September Newsletter is dedicated to  
Jim Turner (9/16/56 – 12/4/2013).  
Jim was a long time GTO enthusiast and  
long time GTOAM member*

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Greetings!

Fall is fast approaching with limited time left to enjoy those cars. Please take the time to put some of those chores aside and take advantage of the remaining warm days and relatively cheap gas prices. Winter will be on us before you know it.

Julie and I certainly had a blast at our last event "SUMMER TOUR". Read about it below. It was just another episode of good weather, good friends, good stories, fascinating exhibits, great cars and great food.

Check out our next event on October 4<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of October 5<sup>th</sup>. It's the Rocky Ridge Fly-In (scaled way back) at Mark Burgess' place in Greene, Maine. Mark says there won't be many planes any more so that's why he's wants more GTOs.

So mark your calendar for October 4<sup>th</sup> and plan to attend this fun event.

Prez  
PJ

### NEXT EVENT

**October 4th, 2014**  
(with rain date of October 5<sup>th</sup>)

### **Rocky Ridge Airport Foliage Fly In**

**When:** Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**Rain date:** Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Where:** Rocky Ridge Airport, 644 Quaker Ridge Road, Greene, ME

**Major Attractions:**

1. Great Foliage, with planes and cars
2. Lots of Food provided. Please bring a dish to share
3. Music

**Time:** Try to arrive by 12:30



Cars and Planes at Rocky Ridge

Mark Burgess is again hosting a great fall event at his Airport in Greene, Maine. Those of you that have attended this event back a few years ago know how much fun this day will be.

Mark is setting everything up for us. All you need to bring is your car, a folding chair and maybe a dish to share.

Because there will be some planes 'flying in', this is a weather dependent event. The concerns are wind and rain. The plan is to have the Fly In on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, but check the weather. If Saturday looks to be extremely windy or rainy, the event will shift to Sunday.

Mark says the best thing to do if there is any question is to call him on his cell phone at 207-754-1027 before you head out.

The Rocky Ridge airport is located on 644 Quaker Ridge Road in Greene, Maine. The best thing to do is use your GPS and input "644 Quaker Ridge Road" (hmmm...imagine that?). When you arrive in Greene, look for the Ball Field. Mark's road/driveway is right across the street. There is a sign that says: "644".



GTOs from a previous Fly-In

## LAST EVENT

### GTOAM/AACA Maine Region Summer Tour

The GTO Association of Maine and the Maine Region of the AACA gathered on Saturday August 9, 2014 for a tour in the Mid-Coast area of Maine. The weather was unbelievably perfect as evidenced by the number of vehicles taking advantage of top down cruising. The group gathered at I&S Insulation World Headquarters in Wiscasset for coffee & donuts.



Meeting at I & S Insulation World Headquarters

The clubs departed for a short ride to Dresden to view a Jim Peacock's petrolinia collection on the Blinn Hill Rd. His collection of signs, cans, and many other artifacts kept the crowd with their jaws hanging down.



Jim Peacock's garage



Great stuff inside

All too soon, the group left for South Freeport to eat at Harraseeket Lunch & Lobster. We were greeted with a private parking lot for restaurant patrons only. This worked well as the restaurant is right on the pier. Dining was picnic style and the awnings overhead provided nice shade. Food was as good as the company.

After a leisurely lunch we still had extra time of an impromptu stop. Right in the center of Yarmouth there is an open-air pavilion with some of Erv Bickford's collection of trucks & equipment on display. When Erv passed away his family set up this display in his memory.



Erv Bickford's collection at the pavilion

Part 2 of this stop was Erv's facility at Yarmouth Junction, just across town. When Erv was alive this was a restoration shop and old truck bone yard. After his passing, the restoration shop continues to churn out restored trucks. The bone yard had been pared down and the large building out back has been overhauled into a spectacular museum. Many high quality restored trucks as well as originals are on display. In between there's a large variety of "smalls" on display as well.

Last stop was Skippy Scoops in Windham. Skippy Scoops is owned by Don Winchell – long term GTO Association of Maine member. He had the red carpet rolled out with a special tented area for the clubs. Don himself prepared our ice cream orders. Just as the last desert was served the clouds that had been threatening opened up. We declared the event to be officially over just before the 1<sup>st</sup> drop hit and retreated under the awning to enjoy our treats.



Always good food at GTOAM events

This recount may be brief but the pictures of this event can do the rest of the talking. Additional photos are available on either clubs website at [www.badgoat.net](http://www.badgoat.net)

*From PJ: Thanks Charlie for setting this up with AACA and for the great report.*

## Special Article From Fred Worcester



### **Bits & Pieces from Behind the Wheel of A GTO**

I've been a gear head for most of my life and in 1964 I fell in love with the GTO. In 1965 my best friend bought a new '65 GTO. It was an awesome car with a 4 speed - just the 4 barrel but, man, it would burn the tires when you put the pedal down. He let me drive the car and I knew I had to have one someday. At the time I had a '63 Tempest 3 speed stick with a 326 which back then was pretty snappy but nothing like my buddy's 4 speed 389 '65 GTO!

In 1966 I made a job change which paid a lot more money I started figuring how I could afford a

GTO. And before I knew it I had ordered a new '66 GTO convertible. At the age of 22, I soon found myself putting the car through some *hot suppers* so to say. Around 1971 I sold the GTO and bought a '70 SS Chevelle 396 convertible; then sold that to do some work on the house. About 1975 I bought a '67 SS Chevelle but sold that in 1977 to help in building a new home. It was around 1985 when I found a '67 GTO convertible that was for sale. It took some work to get it on the road but it was worth it.

And that was when I met a guy in Gardiner who was a GTO lover, too. That was none other than Charlie Huntington. And it was some 26 years ago at a car show in Biddeford where I heard talk about forming a GTO Association of Maine. When they did Susan and I joined and that started a long list of great people that joined and with whom we became friends. Some left the group and more joined. We still make trips to the Augusta area whenever we can to do things with GTOAM folks – almost always including Charlie. Mike King is another guy who has been around since the beginning of the club. Always quiet but always there! Several years after the club was formed we also met a young man who proudly drove his mom's '70 GTO to club events *with the top down – always with the top down!* Paul Johnson is always smiling when you see him get out of the car. Like us, Paul has quite a ride sometimes just to get to where the GTO events are starting but comes as often as he can. We've got lots of stories to tell and have had many fun times with great people. The three guys mentioned have been instrumental in keeping the GTO Association of Maine alive all these years and we always enjoy spending time with them.

Another member that we got to know was Jim Turner. Jim was kind of shy and laid back but he loved cars and especially his 1970 GTO Judge! And he knew a lot about them, too. You could find Jim at Oxford Speedway with his Judge racing a lot in the summer time. Sometimes he would have the 4 barrel carb and other times the tri power set up. A lot of times he'd have just the driver's seat in as he'd take the passenger's seat out to see if it would help improve his time. One year we did a BBQ at our house and Jim drove the Judge up. He said he had to drive slow because he had 390 gears in the rear end and everybody was zooming by him. Charlie was there, too. It must have been a long ride from Gardiner to Brownville that day!

Well, anyway, I've rambled on trying to get to what I wanted to say. Last December Jim passed away after several years of battling cancer. Jim loved the GTOs and won many races at Oxford with that car or with his 1987 Buick Regal. His obituary said that he also loved music, fishing, boating, air shows and air races. Jim was an incredibly knowledgeable guy when it came to cars – GTOs and Subaru's (since that's what he worked

on for 18 years at Charlie's in Augusta).

I would like to dedicate this newsletter I'm memory of Jim. I'm sure he's keeping an eye on us all and I know I think about him often when I'm working on the GTO and things aren't going real good. May Jim rest in peace. All those who knew Jim will remember what a great guy and great friend he was.

Fred Worcester

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If you haven't already received one in the mail, pick up a copy of the November issue of HOT ROD magazine. They have dedicated a number of pages and articles to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the GTO. Good reading!  
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## DUES

### **Are you up-to-date?**

Please, if you haven't paid your 2014 dues yet send your check of \$10.00 (or \$20.00) for two years. If you are unsure if your membership is current, just check the GTOAM roster at the end of this newsletter to see if you have "2014" under "Status". Remember this is our only source of income other than the sale of tee shirts and hats. In saying that lets try to gain new members. Remember we accept any and all Pontiacs not only GTOs. And we welcome any and all new members that have an interest in Pontiacs. You don't even have to own a car to join.

## T SHIRTS/SWEAT SHIRTS

### **Silk Screened:**

Sweats are \$20  
T Shirts are \$10  
Hats are \$5

### **Embroidered Shirts and Hats!!!!!!**

Shirts are \$25  
Hats are \$15  
Add \$3 per order for shipping.  
Lots of colors in stock  
Rose is the contact for these. 563-5824 or  
rose@tidewater.net  
Rose Huntington  
78 Lynch Rd  
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## NEW MEMBERS

Past the word! We always like new members.