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## NEWSLETTER

## GTO Association of Maine June 2017

### President's Message

Happy Summer!

It's been a tough spring so far with only a few opportunities to cruise. You probably have experienced the same issues that I have: that the rain and weather have messed up all of your plans because when we finally get a decent day the outdoor chores demand to be done. Well don't let that detract you from the enjoyment of that summer ride. Life (and summer) is short!!

Our Annual Meeting was great even though the weather was fair. There was a good turnout of members and some great Fast Eddie's Food and Ice Cream. Check out the report (thanks to Susan Worcester) later in this newsletter.

We've come up with some fun activities for the summer. Please try to attend at least one of our events. We'd love to see you and find out what you're up to. Have great summer.

Prez  
PJ

### NEXT EVENT

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### Pontiac Day at Winterport Dragway

**When:** Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Winterport Dragway, Route 139,  
Winterport, Me

**Time:** Gates and Tech open at 8am  
Time Trials start at 9am  
Eliminations start at 12:30pm

It's Pontiac Day at Winterport Dragway. In addition to the Sunday Regular Bracket of Racing, the track will feature Pontiacs. We decided to make this fun day at the Dragway a GTOAM sanctioned event.

So plan to attend and locate other GTOAM members attending. If you are coming from the South and you want to caravan: We plan to meet in Augusta at the old Sears Store in the Turnpike Mall just off I95. The caravan will depart Augusta for Winterport at 10am. Call Charlie at 207-563-5824 if interested.

## **LAST EVENT**

### **GTOAM 2017 Annual Meeting**

*(re-cap provided by Susan Worcester)*

Well, it certainly wasn't the bright, sunny morning we would have hoped for as we prepared to head to Fast Eddie's for GTOAM's annual meeting. Given that the weatherman couldn't tell us if it was going to rain AGAIN today or not, we decided not to take the Goat and would, as we have on rainy days in other years, show up in the Lincoln.

The newsletter said if you wanted to chat with people show up at 11:30 and we arrived at 11:32 and....no one else was there! It was only a few minutes before others showed up. We were pretty happy to find that Paul and Julie Johnson also decided that the 2+ hour ride in this not-so-predictable weather wasn't worth getting out their GTO but they were driving a very nice lookin' GMC truck (Nice ride, guys!). We knew we could depend on Charlie and Mike and Vicki showing up in style! 30 minutes (before lunch) is certainly not enough time to catch up with people you only see once or twice a year so since it was a bit cool outside the ladies suggested we continue the chatter inside.

We were just getting settled at the tables when some unfamiliar faces tentatively entered the room. Jason and Lucinda Houston were warmly greeted and joined us not only for lunch but are now new members of GTOAM! They have a 1968 GTO that they purchased just last year. They live in Monmouth (but they weren't venturing out in their car that day, either!) and have three daughters (who DON'T drive the GTO – at least the ones who are old enough to drive!). We hope that all the stories about past

meetings and past adventures didn't scare them away and that we'll see them again at other club events.

On to the meeting notes...if you've attended our meetings before you know that there is little "official talk" that takes place. As you know from the newsletter, Paul had hoped NOT to continue as president – a position he has graciously held for the last nine years - but no one else wanted to take his place (as most of us – except the new members – had already held that position before) so we decided to just carry on and help with the newsletter so the burden isn't on the Prez to put that together and we made our plans for this year's events. In the end, Paul headed home with the box of information he'd hoped to pass on and we assumed that the other officers were happy in their positions and moved on to events for this summer!

Mike mentioned that Pontiac Day at Winterport Dragway is on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Great day for a ride and to see lots of great old cars so if you don't live too far away – wander over and see what's going on. The day before (Saturday) is one of the Gassah Guys events. That should be lots of fun, too. If you don't know about the Gassah Guys, you can Google them.

Charlie invited us to his house for a barbeque and drive-in movie on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. There will, of course, be more information about that in the next newsletter but the details will be the same as in past years – bring whatever you want to BBQ and the club will provide the side dishes. The drive-in movie will take place after dark (of course!) and if the weather is inclement, Charlie has the ability to move that inside. Oh, and if you've not been to Charlie and Rose's before, there will be "tours" of the cars and memorabilia while you're there. And if you have been there before, Charlie tells us there is new stuff to see!

Fred and Susan (with some help from Charlie) will plan the fall cruise. That date has yet to be determined but will be in late September or early October.

If we could ask for anything for these two particular dates – the BBQ/movie and the fall cruise day – it would be for SUN and DRY WEATHER!

Meeting adjourned. But, as expected with this group, you can't shut us up so there was more conversation in the parking lot – as the day had turned out to be dry with peeks of sun! That was good because Charlie was heading home with the top down.....

## **REQUESTS FOR FEATURE ARTICLES**

Please send me some stuff. Any input is welcome. C'mon, there must be something that you could share. I've run out of things to share. We need your fresh ideas

PJ

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Jason and Lucinda Houston – Monmouth – 1968 GTO

Michael Fuchswanz – Vassalboro – 1965 GTO

## **DUES**

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

Please, if you haven't paid your 2017 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 "2017" under "Status". Remember this is our only source of income other than the sale of tee shirts and hats. In saying that let's 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.

## **GTOAM EVENTS FOR 2017**

June 11<sup>th</sup> (Sunday): Pontiac Day at Winterport Dragway in Winterport, ME

August 26<sup>th</sup> (Saturday): Cookout and Movie at Charlie and Rose's Compound in Newcastle, ME

Fall Cruise TBD (stay tuned)

## **From the Archives:**

This originally ran in the Dec 1997 Newsletter and was courtesy of Mathais Poulin. It originally appeared in Speed & Custom in 1964.

## **THE LAST CRUISE**

Couple of good ole boys are enjoying a healthy share of Milwaukee's Best. Nothin' better to do on a cool, damp fall afternoon, but park in their beat up Nova behind the Winterport transfer station overlooking the empty Winterport Dragway. Suddenly out of the mist a lone '66 GTO convertible appears, stages on the starting line, and tears off in a blur. In a few seconds the lone goat is hurtling back their way and disappears into the mist..."Did you see that?" asks one. "Pass me another beer" replies the other....

Mother Nature decided not to cooperate but we made the best of it anyway. Rose and I headed to Brunswick to catch the Awesome Auto Tour when it went by....and who should appear...but Fred and Susan with Fred at the wheel! We caught up with them at their stop in Topsham. I knew that we were done for when weatherman Paul Cousins climbed into their car for the next leg. Headed next to Belfast for a spot of lunch at "The Barn" Good food and good beer brewed right there. Met the rest of the convoy, Debbie and Barney Ryan, in Ellsworth and headed to Cadillac Mountain. Got some great pics of the cars on top. Had a great tour of Joe Paluga's Inn and enjoyed some good food, drink, and shopping in Bar Harbor. Unfortunately we got rained out for the drags but that's where we came in...