



Volume 10 Issue 7  
November 2013

# Goats Cruisin' The 'Burgh

Newsletter of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club

[www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com)  
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## Contents

Editor's Corner .....	2
Officer's Corner .....	2
Convention Corner .....	3
Meeting Minutes .....	4
2014 Convention Information .....	5
Welcome Recent New Members.....	5
Car of the Month .....	5
Club Schedule .....	6
Christmas Party.....	7
Revised Logo and Banner .....	7
Classified Ads .....	7
Club Items for Sale.....	7
2014 GTOAA Convention Sponsors .....	11
Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club Sponsors .....	11

## Editor's Corner

As I write this, it is late October. Although I have not washed it and covered it yet, the GTO is away for the winter. The next decently warm day that we have (anything in the 50s will do) I will pull it out, wash it, put it away, and cover it. I won't take it out again until a few spring storms wash the salt and anti-skid from the roads. Spring come early in 2014!!!

Now the thoughts turn to winter project(s). Since the 2014 GTOAA National Convention is here in Pittsburgh next year, this winter is a little different than the others. My winter project(s) may be more focused on presentation than they would normally be. I plan to spend some time with the car in the next week or two and take an inventory of projects that I would like to complete before the convention in July. Do you all have your lists? We might not be able to drive our GTOs in the winter, but we can still spend some quality time with them! If you have a project that is a little bigger than you want to tackle on your own, contact another club member! There is a lot of expertise in the group and a lot of people willing to help!

Since we are hosting the 2014 GTOAA National Convention next year, we will begin a GTOAA membership push in 2014. The GTOAA provides many benefits to our hobby, all of the chapters (including our club), and each club member. Now that Pontiac is gone, organizations like the GTOAA are needed more than ever to keep the Pontiac community together. The GTOAA provides all of its chapters with insurance coverage for events (this is a HUGE benefit to all chapters). The GTOAA also provides its monthly magazine *The Legend*, access to tech experts, discounts at many suppliers, and access to its national convention to all members. For these reasons and many more, if you are not a member, please consider joining the GTOAA today. **Please note, you must be a GTOAA member to attend the 2014 GTOAA Convention in Pittsburgh.**

If you have any suggestions or comments about this newsletter, please send them to [newsletter@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:newsletter@greaterpghgto.com). Thanks for reading.

Mike Louttit

## Officer's Corner

Well it's that time of year again. Seems like it takes forever for summer to get here then poof it's gone. I usually store my GTO off site for the winter but this year it's staying home. If we get a nice day in January then I can take it for a ride, maybe. I'm hoping to get my windshield washer system reinstalled this winter. Been trying for three years to do that; just can't seem to get it done. I'm sure there are a lot of us who have plans for winter car projects.

We seem to be getting a new club member every week lately. That is good. I often wonder how many potential members are out there. Every year I see GTOs I haven't seen before. Even in our club I know there are cars waiting to be completed. I was walking through the neighborhood a few weeks ago with my wife and the dog. We were two blocks from home and passed a house we've walked by many times but never met the owners. We knew they went to Florida for the winter and the thought occurred to me that if they vacated their garage for the winter maybe I could rent it during that time. They were out in the driveway that day and I struck up a conversation with him. I asked him about renting his garage but was told he didn't have enough space and rented a garage himself. We started talking about what he had in storage and wouldn't you know he had a 64 GTO in his garage behind the house. He was the second and fifth owner having bought it in 1971 sold it then bought it back in 1987. It is a 389 tri-power matching numbers. Hasn't moved since 1987 and needs total restoration but some day will be on the road. Also in the garage was a 1929 Model A or T pickup truck. It was completely restored. He also has a late 70's Pontiac that has basically no miles and has never seen rain or snow. You just never know what is lurking in garages, even in your own neighborhood.

As we approach the 2014 Nationals I look forward to seeing more GTOs I've not seen before and I'm sure there will be a lot of them.

Alan Fabritius

## Convention Corner

Hello, and Welcome once again to the Convention Corner.

For some of our newer members this space is a way for me to keep you informed and updated with information regarding the 2014 GTOAA National Convention that our club will be hosting on July 1st through July 5th 2014.

So, "What's Been Happening" since last month?

On October 16th we had our regularly scheduled Steering Committee meeting at the Double Tree Hotel in Monroeville, (The Host Hotel of our Convention).

Alan Fabritius, our Club Treasurer, presented our Nationals Account Treasurer's report, and it was accepted.

Joe Barber and Ken Kasper met with the Hotel officials, and reported back regarding the parking space issue(s), and that there is no change in our request to alter their recent proposed parking allotment.

The activity Schedule was approved and will be published soon on our Website, and on the Registration software.

Our promotional Convention T Shirt sales are still continuing. If anyone desires a shirt please contact Carol Odrey @ 724-744-2342 or one of the club officers.

It was decided that since Ames and Performance Years will be sponsors of the 2014 Nationals we will add them to our Sponsorship Website page at this time. FYI our Website is...[www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com)

We are also in the process of contacting and arranging a Photographer for the 2014 event. Joe Barber will be contacting Long Island Photographer regarding this. They are the company that did the Dayton Show and come recommended by the GTOAA and by those that attended Dayton this year. We will await their proposal and then award the contract to the company that can offer the best overall job.

Joe Barber is also in the process of contacting "Guest Speakers" for the Seminars, and potential "Round Table" Q & A's. Joe will be reporting back to the Committee at our next meeting in November. If you

have any thoughts or suggestions regarding speakers give Joe a call.

We will be interviewing 2 security firms at our next meeting so as to establish what each can offer in regards to our specific needs. By those firms attending our meeting, we will have the opportunity to ask questions and consider their recommendations for security.

Keep a look out for the December GTOAA Legend Magazine. You will see the first article from our club welcoming the GTOAA members to Pittsburgh. We will have the use of this magazine for each month's publication, so be sure to take a look.

This would also be a good time for me to ask or suggest that if you are NOT a GTOAA member, would you please consider joining?

The National GTOAA organization is 'Raising the Bar' each year on the local chapters by requiring a certain % of our membership to be GTOAA members, these new requirements will have to be met so that we can keep our Chapter Affiliation. The National GTOAA Organization maintains and promotes our hobby. Without their support, and the very important Free Insurance Policy that they offer all chapters, we could not hold the 2014 GTOAA event here in Pittsburgh. So if you are not a member of the GTOAA, for the annual cost of \$35.00 you can become a member. You will receive the monthly Legend magazine, and help show support of our local club.

Please keep in mind that the 2014 Convention is a GTOAA sanctioned event and you must be a GTOAA Member to register and attend.

We were surprised by a visit by Tom Szymczyk, the editor of *The Legend* magazine. Tom lives in New Jersey and came to visit us on the weekend of October 12th. Tom's purpose was to, (as he said) "Scout Out" the area not only as a representative of the GTOAA, but also as a service to his local New Jersey chapter members. He told us he likes to visit the site ahead to see what it has to offer, what restaurants, shopping, etc. is available to their members so that they can come and enjoy their time here without having to search for these places.

Tom and Gerie were impressed with the Convention Center, the area, and most importantly the members of your Steering Committee.

Several of us showed them around on Sunday. They had the opportunity to see the inside of the Convention Center along with the "Lay of the Land" outside. We had some very good discussions on traffic flow and the organization of how we should stage the cars as they arrive.

Later that evening we had dinner at the Bella Luna Restaurant with Tom, Gerie and quite a few members of our club.

A good time was had by all. "Thank You" to all of you that made the dinner!

I would like to invite any, or all, of you to our next Steering Committee Meeting at the Double Tree. **The meeting will be held on November the 16th.** It's always the Saturday before the 3rd Tuesday of the month, which is our General Membership Meeting at Perkins in Cranberry November 19th.

So until next month, take one last look at the car before you put it away and cover it for the winter.

Spring and good weather is only about 5 months away.

Most important, come on out and enjoy the company and friendship of your fellow members.

Hope to see you soon,

John Owoc  
Co-Chairman GTOAA 2014 National Convention.

## Meeting Minutes

President, Joe Barber opened the meeting with 13 members in attendance. Joe welcomed our newest member, David Wray to the club. Treasurer, Alan Fabritius gave the treasurer's report, which was approved by all.

Joe is still trying to organize a run and dinner to Hickory Hill Golf Course in Bridgeville. The club is owned by member Sam Depe and he has invited the club to visit. It was voted to make a donation of \$100.00 to the chapel at Shanksville, PA. Member Tom Monzo will deliver the check when he attends a tribute on October 24.

The club is trying to organize monthly activities to enjoy throughout the winter months. A trip to the Carnegie Science Center was mentioned as one. If you would like

to plan or host an activity, please notify Joe Barber. Any ideas welcome!

The club enjoyed the annual picnic at White Oak Park on September 7 and a fun run to Shanksville on September 22. The run was followed by lunch at the Oakhurst Tea Room in Somerset. Thank you to Cheryl Kasper for organizing the picnic and to Pete Muro and Jim Mastroianni for planning the Shanksville trip!

Secretary, Bonnie Fabritius reminded members of the Club Christmas party on Saturday, December 14 at Carmody's in Wexford. More details to come soon. She also noted that the time to renew your dues is just around the corner as our membership year ends December 31. If you would like to get a head start and pay your dues before the holiday rush starts, payment can be sent to Bonnie.

Convention Chair, John Owoc did a brief review of the discussion held during the monthly convention meeting that was held at the Monroeville Doubletree Hotel on Saturday, October 12. The activities were finalized and webmaster, Mike Louttit will be adding them to the website and on the registration form. Tom Szymczyk from the GTOAA visited the venue and toured the area that weekend also and was very pleased with the location and the plans we have made so far. John submitted a promotional article to the Legend Magazine. He mentioned that the January issue will have a paper registration form as well as a listing of the activities. Our next convention meeting will be held in the Caliguiri room at the hotel on Saturday, November 16. Contact John Owoc with any questions. The meeting is open to all members as we are trying to narrow down the task list, etc and any input is welcome.

President, Joe Barber adjourned the meeting and noted that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19 at Perkins.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Fabritius, Secretary

## 2014 Convention Information

We are working hard to provide up to date information to our club and our guests for the convention. The following are ways to find information about the convention:

- Attend our monthly club and convention meetings
- Visit our website  
[www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com)
- “Like” us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/GreaterPghGTO](http://www.facebook.com/GreaterPghGTO)
- “Follow” us on Twitter  
[www.twitter.com/GreaterPghGTO](http://www.twitter.com/GreaterPghGTO)
- Join the 2014 GTOAA Convention Facebook Group. Search for “2014 GTOAA Convention” in Facebook and request to join the group.

Your help is still needed for the 2014 Convention. If you have not yet volunteered to help on a committee and you would like to, please contact any club officer. They can discuss with you where our needs are greatest and try to match that up with your interests.

The committees are:

- Activities
  - Chairperson: John Odrey
- Car Show/Grounds
  - Chairperson: Ken Kasper
- Drag Race
  - Chairperson: Bill Gilbert
- Finance
  - Chairperson: Alan Fabritius
- Hotel
  - Chairperson: Carol Odrey
- Registration/Promotion/Sponsors
  - Chairperson: Cheryl Kasper
- Security
  - Chairperson: John Owoc
- Signage
  - Chairperson: Needed
- Swap Meet
  - Chairperson: Joe Barber
- Website/Social Media
  - Chairperson: Mike Louttit

## Welcome Recent New Members

David and Susan Wray – 64 GTO Convertible and 65 GTO

Michael Wortman – 72 GTO 455 H.O.

David and Janet Brogan – 68 GTO Convertible

## Car of the Month

The November 2013 Car of the Month is the beautiful 1967 GTO owned by John and Connie Bacha. John and Connie provided the following answers to the Car of the Month Questionnaire:

### **Tell us about your car (year, model, drivetrain, options, etc.)**

1967 GTO Convertible, Owned since March, 1997. The car has the original 400 cubic inch HO high output, 360 horse power engine. The transmission is the original turbo 400 three speed with the Hurst His and Her shifter. The rear end is original 3:55 positraction.

Factory Options: Hood Tachometer, Front Power Disc Brakes, Power Steering, Power Convertible Top, Power Trunk Release, Power Rear Antenna, Tilt Wood Wheel, Rally II Wheels

Added Option: Rally I Wheels, AM/FM/CD Stereo Radio, Oil/Temperature/Alternator Gauges, Transmission Oil and Temperature Gauges

Literature: Original Window Sticker, Owners Manual, Owner Protection Plan Book, Convertible Top Operation Manual

### **How long have you had the car?**

Interesting how I found the car. In December of 1996 I found a GTO in Hemmings. When I called, I found the car was sold. But as often happens with Pontiac guys, we talked for about an hour and Mike told me if the deal falls through, he would call me. It did not fall through, but in January, 1997 Mike called me to tell me that since he subscribed to Hemmings, he received his two weeks before it came out. In the issue was a nice looking 67 GTO convertible in Arlington Virginia. I called the guy immediately and after talking to the guy I asked him to send me pictures. Here are the four pictures he originally sent me:



After looking at the pictures, I fell in love with the car. I called him immediately and negotiated him down from his \$18,000 asking price to \$16,000. I sent him \$100 to hold the car because it was winter and the snow was

flying. When the Hemmings hit the newsstands, his phone was ringing off the hook with people who wanted to buy the car at \$18,000. But being the honest guy he was he turned down their offers and sold it to me for \$16,000, which included a ton of parts. Because of the bad snowy weather I was not able to go and pick it up till mid-March, 1997. I drove it home from Arlington Virginia. As I proudly drove into my driveway with my 1967 GTO muscle car my wife came out to see my new find. With the car rumbling those 360 horses her first comment was "It sounds like a piece of junk with all that noise" I informed her that "Honey this is a muscle car and that is the beautiful sound they make".

**What have you done to it since you have owned it?**

Since I bought the car in 1997, I have put Rally I's and new tires on the GTO. Last year I sent the car to my friend, Paul Fertal, and told him to go over the car and correct any problems. He put new rear seal in the engine, electric fans, new hood hinges, plus other things. Two years ago Paul rebuilt the transmission for me. I put an electronic ignition in the car 10 years ago after burning up the points and getting caught on the side of the road. The front bucket seats and rear seat covers are new. When I bought the car there was a 4:10 Posi rear end in it which was terrible for cruising, thus I put the original 3:55 Posi back in the GTO.

**What is your favorite memory with the car?**

There are two favorite memories. 1. Every year in the Mt. Lebanon Halloween Parade the GTO appears carrying Santa Claus 2. When my granddaughter Amanda was 5 years old, she and two of her friends rode in the GTO during the Memorial Day parade, dressed as princesses, she as Belle, and they threw candy to the crowd and we all had a great time.

**How often do you drive the car?**

I drive the car once or twice a month. I have only put 10,000 miles on it since I bought it.

**What else would you like the club to know about your car?**

Tell the club that it is ready to cruise next year to where ever they go.

Here is a picture of John and Connie's car at the USX Building this year.



John provided many other pictures of the car for this newsletter. I have included a few. The rest can be seen at

<https://picasaweb.google.com/102440873468157713059/1967GTO10292013>



## Club Schedule

With a few exceptions, cruise season has ended here is Pittsburgh. In a few months, we will start adding 2014 cruises once the schedules are announced.

November 16, 2013  
2014 Convention Meeting  
8:00 am - ??  
DoubleTree Hotel, Monroeville, PA 15146

November 19, 2013  
Club Meeting  
6:00 – 9:00 (dinner at 6, meeting starts at 7)  
Perkin's Restaurant, Cranberry, PA

December 14, 2013  
Christmas Party  
Carmody's Restaurant in Wexford

July 1 – 5, 2014  
GTOAA Convention!!!  
Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville, PA

## Christmas Party

I seriously cannot believe this time of year has come again already. But it is time to get your reservation in for our annual Christmas party! The party will be held on **Saturday, December 14th** at Carmody's in Wexford. Parking and entrance to the banquet hall is around the rear of the building. As you enter the banquet doors, our room is to your left. Cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m. with a buffet dinner being served at 7 p.m. A gift exchange will be held for those who wish to participate. Men should bring a \$10 gift suitable for a male and women a \$10 gift suitable for a female. Cost is \$27.50/person and \$55.00/couple. Any checks should be made payable to the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club. Payment should be sent to Alan Fabritius, 136 Ridge Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Please RSVP by **Saturday, November 23** to [abfabrit@verizon.net](mailto:abfabrit@verizon.net). The following is requested in your reply:

How many are attending?  
Names (both names if RSVP'ing for a couple)

Hoping you will join us for a fun evening!

Bonnie Fabritius, Secretary  
Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club

## Revised Logo and Banner

Have you noticed our revised club logo and banner?  
Special thanks to Tom Szymczyk for his help on the logo.

Revised club logo:



Revised club banner (used on our website and Facebook):



The banner picture is from our 2013 club picnic.

## Classified Ads

FOR SALE: 1970 Hood and Front Bumper – Excellent condition - \$400 each or both for \$700. Email John Owoc at [je70goat@verizon.net](mailto:je70goat@verizon.net).

WANTED: 1966 – 1967 GTO or LeMans convertible top switch. Call John Bacha at 412-343-4445.

Send any items for sale or wanted to [newsletter@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:newsletter@greaterpghgto.com). Advertisements are free for club members but please limit the advertisements to GTO related items. The officers reserve the right to refuse any advertisement for any reason. Submissions are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the next issue.

## Club Items for Sale

This section will show all of the club items that we have for sale. This section will be completed in an upcoming issue.

# 35TH ANNUAL GTO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA CONVENTION

Pittsburgh, PA  
July 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

ALL  
Pontiacs  
Welcome!



Celebrating

50 years of the 1964 GTO  
40 years of the 1974 GTO  
and  
10 years of the 2004 GTO!!

**GTOAA**  
INTERNATIONAL MEET  
*July 1-5<sup>th</sup> 2014*  
PITTSBURGH, PA

Hosted by the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club  
Location: Monroeville Convention Center (12 miles east of Pittsburgh)  
Host Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton (next to the convention center)  
See [www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com) for complete convention details  
July 1st - July 5th, 2014



JOE BARBER  
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## GREATER PITTSBURGH GTO CLUB

Attn: Membership  
c/o Bonnie Fabritius  
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MIKE LOUTTIT  
WEBSITE COORDINATOR  
724-733-9056  
webmaster@greaterpghgto.com  
mlouttit68gto@gmail.com

## MEMBER APPLICATION

### ANNUAL DUES \$10

(Membership Year runs Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Year and Model(s) of Car(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

GTOAA Member \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Mail dues and completed application form to above address or give to any of the club officers**

[www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com)

**\*\*\*NOTE: Dues MUST be paid by 12/31 to be included in the annual roster and receive club information\*\*\***

Moving  
**PennDOT**  
Forward



# Driver and Vehicle Services Update

Bureau of Motor Vehicles – Research and Support Operations Section  
P.O. Box 68031, Harrisburg, PA 17106-8031

This bulletin may be downloaded by visiting the Driver and Vehicle Services  
website at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us)

Tom Corbett, Governor

Barry J. Schoch, P.E., Secretary

BULLETIN NO. 13-08

August 2013

## SPECIAL EDITION

### Classic Registration Plates

PennDOT is proud to announce the issuance of the newly-designed Classic Registration Plates. The Classic Registration Plates were redesigned to allow them to be incorporated into PennDOT's "Family of Plates" color scheme.

The updated plate designs reflect the "Family of Plates" color scheme of blue, white and yellow. Pennsylvania is printed at the top of the plate, the words "PA Classic Vehicle" are printed on the left side and the words Classic Vehicle" are printed at the bottom of the plate for the classic vehicle registration plate and "Classic MC" is printed at the bottom for the classic motorcycle registration plate. The old-style classic registration plates with purple lettering on a white background are still valid and will remain in use.

Vehicle owners who have the old-style classic registration plate and wish to obtain the newly-designed plate may request a replacement plate featuring the updated design by completing Form MV-44, "Application for Duplicate Registration Card, Replacement of Registration Plate, Renewal Sticker or Weight Class Sticker of Transfer of Registration." In Section B, the reason block "other" would be checked and the explanation should indicate "new-style classic plate requested." Replacement fee of \$7.50 is required. Owners are not required to replace their old style plate with the new design.

**AGENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE ALL OF THEIR EMPLOYEES RECEIVE PENNDOT'S DRIVER  
AND VEHICLE SERVICES UPDATE BULLETINS**

2014 GTOAA Convention Sponsors



Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club Sponsors

**Would you like to sponsor our club or the 2014 GTOAA Convention?  
Your advertisement could be here!**

**Contact Cheryl Kasper at [cherylbk@comcast.net](mailto:cherylbk@comcast.net).**

## Website/Newsletter Content Needed

If you have pictures of a recent event (cruise, fun run, etc.) and you would like to share them, please describe the event and send the pictures to [webmaster@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:webmaster@greaterpghgto.com) or [newsletter@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:newsletter@greaterpghgto.com). Submissions are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the next issue.

If your car is selected for Car of the Month, we will ask you for some information about your car to include with the pictures. We would like to know when and where you bought the car, what you have done to it, where you like to go in it, and anything else you would like to tell us. If your car is selected for Car of the Month, we will contact you. Get your thoughts ready!

## Advertising Information

*Goats Cruisin' The 'Burgh* is a monthly newsletter for the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club. It is sent to all members via email and current and past newsletters are available on our web site for anyone to view.

\$100 – Full page advertisement in our newsletter, your logo on our website main page, and a link to your website from the logo.

\$50 – ½ page advertisement in our newsletter, your logo on our website main page, and a link to your website from the logo.

\$25 – Business card advertisement in our newsletter, your logo on our website main page, and a link to your website from the logo.

## Advertising Guidelines

Classified ads up to 50 words are free to members. Add 10 cents per word for any ad over 50 words. Payment is due upon submission. Members need to update ads at 3 month intervals or ads will be dropped. Classified ads up to 50 words for non-members are \$5.00 per issue.

## Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club Information

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club was formed in 1998 and is an official chapter of the GTO Association of America. The club welcomes any GTO enthusiast interested in the enjoyment, restoration, and preservation of the Pontiac GTO. Ownership of a GTO is not required.

Along with our beloved GTOs (old and new), our club members and their families love to get together at the various club functions and events held throughout the year. Typical events include cruises, shows, picnics, parties, and more. The excitement that the GTO brings is a wonderful experience and is only further enhanced by being a member of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club.

We communicate through this newsletter, *Goats Cruisin' The 'Burgh*, our website, Facebook, and Twitter.

Club meetings are the third Tuesday of every month at Perkin's Restaurant in Cranberry, PA. Dinner starts at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 7:00.

Membership dues are \$10.00 per year on a calendar year basis.

[www.greaterpghgto.com](http://www.greaterpghgto.com)  
[www.facebook.com/GreaterPghGTO](https://www.facebook.com/GreaterPghGTO)  
[www.twitter.com/GreaterPghGTO](https://www.twitter.com/GreaterPghGTO)

## Address Change?

Has your address, phone, or email recently changed? Please notify Bonnie Fabritius, our club secretary, at [secretary@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:secretary@greaterpghgto.com). This will help us keep you informed about the club. Thank you.