



**February 2014**

# Goats Cruisin' The 'Burgh

Newsletter of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club

[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)

## Officers

President

Joe Barber

412-974-0772

[president@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:president@greaterpghgto.com)

Vice-President

John Owoc

412-373-0325

[vice.president@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:vice.president@greaterpghgto.com)

Treasurer

Alan Fabritius

724-480-6910

[treasurer@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:treasurer@greaterpghgto.com)

Secretary

Open Position

[secretary@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:secretary@greaterpghgto.com)

Membership Coordinator

Bonnie Fabritius

724-480-6910

[membership@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:membership@greaterpghgto.com)

Webmaster

Mike Louttit

724-733-9056

[webmaster@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:webmaster@greaterpghgto.com)

Newsletter Editor

Mike Louttit

724-733-9067

[newsletter@greaterpghgto.com](mailto:newsletter@greaterpghgto.com)

## Contents

Editor's Corner ..... 2

Officer's Corner ..... 2

Convention Corner ..... 3

2014 Dues ..... 3

Club Secretary ..... 3

Meeting Minutes ..... 3

2014 Convention Information ..... 4

Welcome Recent New Members ..... 4

Car of the Month ..... 5

Club Schedule ..... 6

Classified Ads ..... 6

Club Items for Sale ..... 6

2014 GTOAA Convention Sponsors ..... 9

Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club Sponsors ..... 9

## Editor's Corner

As I write this, it is -8 degrees outside and everything is covered in snow. Yes, it has been a cold, snowy winter.

I do not like winter. It keeps people inside, it keeps the GTO in storage, and daily commutes can become multi-hour adventures. But, there is hope.

Every year, I look for milestones that spring is just around the corner. The first milestone is the Barrett Jackson Auction from Scottsdale, Arizona in mid-January. Then it is the Rolex 24 at Daytona which recently concluded. After that, it is the start of the NASCAR season with Speedweeks and the Daytona 500. Yes, I still get excited about NASCAR even though they keep trying to screw it up with all of their changes. Bring back the NASCAR of the 70s (but I digress)!!

Once those events are over it is mid to late February. Cold snowy days are quickly followed by days in the 40s. The sun feels warmer. Spring is right around the corner!

So, cheer up my fellow club members. Spring is coming, cruise season will be starting, and we will be driving the GTOs soon!

As I write this, there are 153 days until the start of the 2014 GTOAA Convention! As you all know, our club has been working very hard at this for a long time. Let me make one appeal. So many of you have let the Steering Committee know that you will be there to help during the convention. We appreciate it very much. But, can we ask that you step forward now to help us complete the plans? The more people we have familiar with the convention plans BEFORE the convention, the less people that will need to be trained DURING the convention. In addition, more people mean more ideas.

Now, a repeat of my appeal over the last few months.....

Since we are hosting the 2014 GTOAA National Convention next year, we are conducting 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

Hi fellow GTO Club members. Happy Groundhog Day!

I'm hoping for spring right around the corner. Being the club treasurer, I deal with numbers. Maintaining the vast wealth of the club can be very stressful....maybe not.

Life started out with a simple number 1, as in one year old. Then it was 2 then 3 and so forth. But by the time a lot of us reached 16 we started thinking 3 digit numbers, cubic inches. Personally I started out Chevy, 235, 265, 283 and 327. I never made to the big blocks. While driving Chevys I worked for a Dodge dealer and more numbers entered the picture, 273, 318, 340, 383, 440 and of course 426. I only had one experience with a Hemi and that was as a passenger and it wasn't pleasant. Ask Pat Gallagher how he felt riding with Joe Barber and you'll know how I felt.

In the early 70's I moved on to Pontiac which had 326, 350, 389, 400, 421, 428 and 455. My first three Pontiacs were Lemans with 350's. I then got a 69 GTO with a 400. Then to add more numbers to the mix you have all the rear end ratios, 308, 323, 336, 355, 373 411 just to name a few.

In the late 70's I started working for the Post Office. My job dealt with a nationwide 3 digit zip code sorting. So now all my car numbers also became zip codes. All these number floating around make it really hard to pick a daily number for the lottery.

The only number my wife associates with cars is 442, don't know where that comes from. I guess one of the most important numbers in life is 401(K). Also 65 is pretty important as a lot of people retire at this age. I wonder at what age would someone say "Look at that

old goat driving that GTO"? Who is the oldest person you know driving a GTO? I hope it's not 65. But I guess for now the most important number to remember is 7-1-2014...the start of GTO Nationals in Pittsburgh. See you there.

Your club treasurer, Alan

## Convention Corner

Hello and Welcome to the Convention Corner!

The GTOAA Convention Steering Committee met on Saturday January 18th, at the Double Tree Hotel for its regular monthly meeting. As I write this column for you we are just a very short 5 months away from the convention. The committee has been busy selecting a security firm. We have also selected the services of a local tour company to handle the trip to Shanksville to visit the flight 93 memorial and other attractions in that area.

It should also be noted that we have had our share of difficulties with the Registration Software. I only mention this because if someone asks you about it please make them aware that, our local club doesn't have any control of the registration software. An outside firm handles the development and implementation of it, and we have to work through the problems with them.

The good news is that we believe that most if not all issues have been resolved and registrations are going through much smoother now.

In regards to registrations, we are approaching the 100 registrants as of this writing. We have a long way to go but according to the "Experts" we are right on track for a successful event.

We have been assured that Arnie Beswick will attend the convention, and also put on a 1/4 mile display at our Drag Racing event on Thursday July 3rd. Jim Wangers is close to confirming an appearance also. We just need to wrap up a few more details with him. We received a pleasant surprise from the newly formed GTOAA Chapter of The Windy City Goats. They have offered to sponsor our Model Car Show at the convention. We are grateful to the new club for their generous contribution to us.

We are still in the process of securing a Photographer. If you know of someone that is capable and willing to do

the convention let me know. Please keep in mind that this individual must be able to not only take pictures, but must have a method to organize and format the pictures for the awards banquet and subsequent Legend articles.

I would also like to thank those that replied to my recent request for the names of potential sponsors. We did receive quite a few responses. Thank You!! It's still not too late to pass on more names or contacts if some come to mind. Cheryl would be happy for the referrals.

We are still in need of golf carts. If you know of someone that can help us, or refer us to someone, please let me know.

Those of you who receive the monthly GTOAA Legend magazine, take a look at the article that our Bill Gilbert submitted. Good job Bill. Thanks for writing it.

Next month keep an eye out for the article. It will have comments from our Cheryl Kasper regarding the Registration process and information for our guests that attend the convention.

So until next month STAY WARM!

John Owoc

Co-Chairman 2014 GTOAA National Convention

## 2014 Dues

Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club dues for 2014 are now past due! If you have not paid your 2014 dues, please send a check for \$10 payable to Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club to Alan Fabritius 136 Ridge Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Thank you!

## Club Secretary

We are in need of a club secretary. Bonnie Fabritius has resigned as secretary but will continue to be the membership coordinator. We thank Bonnie for all of her service as secretary. If you are interested in being considered for secretary or you would like more information about the position, please contact any club officer.

## Meeting Minutes

There was no general membership meeting in January.

## 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

John and Debby Moon (1974 GTO)



Sam & Michele Campanella (1964 GTO)



Sam & Michele’s GTO has been featured in High Performance Pontiac! Here is the link:

[http://www.highperformancepontiac.com/features/0305sr\\_1964\\_pontiac\\_gto/](http://www.highperformancepontiac.com/features/0305sr_1964_pontiac_gto/)

## Car of the Month

The February 2014 Car of the Month is the beautiful 1974 GTO owned by new members John and Debby Moon.

John and Debby provided the following information to our questionnaire:

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

1974 GTO: 350 3-speed. A numbers matching car with original drivetrain, rims, etc. Not much for options, no power steering or A/C, bench seat, am radio, & has a trunk, (not a hatchback).

2. How long have you had the car?

My father/mother-in-law purchased this for my wife in late summer 1981 as a high school graduation present. We graduated high school in 1982. We've had it ever since.

3. What have you done to it since you have owned it?

Originally my father-in-law replaced the interior, as it was really tore up & sun-beaten. They changed it to black from the original red/black/white plaid seats. Bucket seats were installed, \*(I wonder why?), with a new "modern" crushed velvet interior. The exterior paint scheme on it when received was black & gold.

I purchased two other cars over the years (one '74 Ventura & one '74 GTO hatchback). I decided I wouldn't have the car restored until I had everything I needed. This car has never seen snow & the underneath was in excellent condition so I decided on a frame-on restoration. I wanted the car to be a driver. Everything mechanically was gone over & replaced or updated. I wanted the car to remain with original factory specs. The color was changed back to the original Honduran Maroon w/stripe kit, & the interior to a factory black with a bench seat. The original rims are with the car & painted factory colors. 18 months of restoration & we have a brand new 1974 GTO.

4. What is your favorite memory with the car?

Having it so long there are many memories. One in mind is a friend with a '71 Challenger followed us out of town wanting to see who had the top end. We got on a two-lane hill & his 360 motor scattered 3/4 of the way up the hill, \*(I ended up buying it off of him). My wife & I started dating when we were 15 yrs. old, so the car's always been with us. So glad we kept it. Shortly after we were married in 1987, it went into storage & was garaged. My wife never had a car with an automatic transmission until we were married.

5. How often do you drive the car?

After getting it back in Jan. 2012 from an 18 month restoration, we really didn't get to drive it too much. I had a few minor details to finish & put antique plates on it. I thought we'd get out more last summer, then my son was in a terrible car accident in July & spent 28 days in Presby. Thank God he's still with us & that's what was important. We managed to get to one cruise-in with three other '74 GTO's late in the year.

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

Just don't see many of these. It's funny how restoring a car brings people together, & is how we came in contact with the other three '74 owners. This one was difficult to restore as it being a one year car, original parts were very difficult to obtain. I bought two other 74 cars, as well as hours & hours on the internet looking & researching. Without the internet I probably wouldn't have it done yet. I still don't know what I have in it as I haven't added up the receipts, but I believe I have every bit of 30K in it. The car is now fun to drive & a classic example of one of the last & best era of cars anyone has ever seen.

## Club Schedule

Important Note: Our club officers are still debating what should be done with the general membership meetings from now until the convention. We will have one convention meeting every month through April and then two per month starting in May. We will all be VERY busy. Our officers are trying to decide what is best given the demands of the convention. We will announce all meetings (convention and general membership) in the newsletters and on the web site calendar. As of the writing of this newsletter, there is only a convention meeting in February (on the 15<sup>th</sup>). There is no February general membership meeting scheduled at this time.

February 15, 2014

Convention Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel, Monroeville, PA

8:00 until ??

July 1 – 5, 2014

GTOAA Convention!!!

Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville, PA

## 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  
PRESIDENT  
724-869-1729  
president@greaterpghgto.com  
barber565@comcast.net



FRANK THOMPSON  
SERGEANT AT ARMS  
412-881-0729  
sergeant.at.arms@greaterpghgto.com  
jfrank64@hotmail.com

JOHN OWOC  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
412-373-0325  
vice.president@greaterpghgto.com  
je70goat@verizon.net

## GREATER PITTSBURGH GTO CLUB

Attn: Membership  
c/o Bonnie Fabritius  
136 Ridge Avenue  
Beaver Falls PA 15010

BONNIE FABRITIUS  
SECRETARY  
724-480-6910  
secretary@greaterpghgto.com  
alan69gto@gmail.com

ALAN FABRITIUS  
TREASURER  
724-480-6910  
treasurer@greaterpghgto.com  
alan69gto@gmail.com

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\*\*\***

## 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.

The term for all advertising is one year.

## 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.