

Goats Cruisin' the 'Burgh

Newsletter of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club

April 2018

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club is an official chapter of the GTO Association of America (GTOAA).

All members of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club must be members of the GTOAA.

Officers

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Throughout the Newsletter, clicking hyperlinks, blue underlined text, will take you to websites or prompt you to send emails.

Editor's Corner

Jim Longo

This is the month that most of us are likely to fire up our GTOs and get them ready for another cruise season. I have a long list of "to do" items for my car, just a question of how many of them I'll get done, which are most important to address, which will wait. It seems like a never-ending process, and that's on a car that's just a driver.



In this month's Officer's Corner, Tom Monzo writes about one reason people join car clubs and shares some information on a project that he hopes to undertake. I have been in the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club for almost four years, and I have definitely learned more about my car and GTOs in general in that time. Some of that learning has been through the Club and some has been on my own. With so much information available through the internet, enthusiasts have options other than joining a club, so clubs need to find ways to stay relevant.

I've been sharing internet content that I think our members would be interested in through links in the Newsletter; hopefully that give our members some additional reading and makes it easier for members who aren't so inclined to search out that kind of content. Just this month I learned of a very comprehensive site from well-known Pontiac enthusiast Rocky Rotella, www.pontiacv8.com, definitely worth checking out.

Be sure to keep your eye on the Club Calendar here and on our website, as we update as we learn of events. The Downtown Irwin Cruise is April 28th and the Shriners have published the date for the show we help to promote as Sunday, August 19th.

We have your responses to another "Question of the Month" this month, seeing what you think about various car-related topics. It's great to see the participation, and if you have questions that you'd like to see us ask, please send them along. The more content you help to drive, the better, and frankly I need your ideas to make the Newsletter the best it can be. If you'd like to submit a "My GTO Story" or anything else that you think the members will enjoy, please send them to newsletter@greaterpghgto.com.

Meeting Minutes

By Cheryl Kasper

Minutes for March 20, 2018 meeting held at Ladles Restaurant. Tom called the meeting to order. 14 members were in attendance. We have 62 paid members as of this meeting.

Club store is now open. The club store helps fund our club treasury. Our club gets a percentage on anything sold. GTO merchandise makes great gifts for birthdays and holidays. Contact Chris Sklenar for anything you want to order.

Cheryl read minutes from previous meeting held on February 20, 2018 taken by Roger Kral. Motion to accept minutes by Ron Gunn, seconded by Karen Owoc. Thanks Roger for taking the minutes in my absence.

John read treasurer's report. Motion to accept minutes by Ken Kasper, seconded by Roger Kral. John said he delivered a \$100 check to White Oak Animal Safe Haven that was voted on last month as a thank you to Bob Massie for saving our Norwin car cruise by paying for the insurance. This is where Bob's family requested donations be given because he and his daughter were on their board of directors.

Karen Owoc won 50/50 - \$21.00.

Jim always needs new GTO stories for the newsletter.

2018 GTOAA National Convention is in Valley Forge, June 26 - June 30. Many more details to follow. John said hotels are selling out for the nationals. You may want to book now if you are planning to attend.

Joe Barber has called Kennywood. We can take in four cars on Sunday, July 1 and nine on Wednesday, July 4. At the present time, July 1st is filled. We have room for six more cars on July 4. If you are interested in joining us at the park, please let me know and I will add you to the list.

The Downtown Irwin car cruise is scheduled for Saturday, April 28th. If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with Jim Mastroianni. Jim will save places for us along Main Street in Irwin.

Victory car cruise starts on May 25.

The date for the 2018 family picnic is September 8 at Maple Grove in White Oak Park. Cheryl will still be chairperson for the picnic. Mark your calendar.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

By Cheryl Kasper

Tom and Ken are meeting with the Shriner's regarding the car cruise on August 19th. More details to follow.

Jim Mastroianni said the Italian Club in Export wants to know if we are interested in sponsoring a car cruise. Jim is to find out more information as to what would be involved. We would want to know what our club would be responsible for, what cost (if any) is involved and how our club could make money from this cruise.

Tom asked if anyone has any fund raising ideas, to get in touch with him to bring up at a meeting. Or better yet, come to the next meeting and let us know what your idea is. If anyone has any new sponsors ideas, the sponsor form is on our website.

Tom went to the Detroit auto show. He said it's a very nice cruise and lots of nice cars. He said if you have a chance to attend, you should.

All of our paperwork has been sent in to Denny Deal for 2018 showing we have 62 members this year. Since our

club is 100 percent GTOAA, our four officers receive their \$35.00 GTOAA dues paid. This year since Cheryl didn't need her dues paid, I sent in for Tom, Roger, John and Mike Louttit (our website guy) to have their dues paid. Cheryl suggested the club pay for Jim Longo's dues for 2018 since he does so much with writing our newsletter. Tom made a motion to have Jim's dues paid and Ron Gunn seconded the motion. Motion passed. Since Jim already gave me a check to pay his 2018 dues, John will write a check for \$35.00 to reimburse Jim.

All dues have been sent in to the GTOAA. If you paid your \$35.00 dues for 2018, please check your Legend magazine next to your name and make sure your membership date has been updated. If not, please let me know.

Next meeting will be April 17 at Ladles. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00.

Motion to adjourn by Roger, seconded by Jim Mastroianni.

Meeting adjourned.

Officer's Corner

By Tom Monzo

As I am writing this article, the date is April 2, 2018 and my yard is covered in snow. When will it ever stop? Soon enough, we will all be cruising in our GTOs again. I promise!

In the latest Hemmings Motor News dated April, 2018, Richard Lentinello wrote an article on page 8 entitled, "The Car Club Conundrum." The following is an excerpt from his article. "First and foremost, people join car clubs to learn more about their car's brand and model history, and to obtain information on how to repair and restore their cars. The more how-to, historical, and production facts made available, the more people will want to become members, and stay members." The article goes on to address several other issues that car clubs deal with today. I decided to focus on this paragraph and provide some resources that I discovered while planning some updates to my GTO, hopefully this summer. Here is what I found out recently.

While researching how to increase the ride height of my 1965 GTO, I contacted several companies. I started with Ames Performance since they sold me the last set of coil springs on my car. After

measuring my rocker panel height, Ames told me that my car is sitting at the factory height. I explained to them that I no longer like the fact that the rear of my car sits lower than the front, even if this is original. I then asked for the brand of the coil spring that they sell and the part number. The front coil springs (part #5246) and rear coil springs (part #5237) are made by Moog.

I contacted a technician at Moog at this number (800-325-8886). I explained my dilemma and he told me that there is a lot more to coil springs than free height and installed height. Simply buying a taller spring might not solve my problem. There are at least five other factors to consider. As he explained them to me, I told him that I'm not an engineer and could never make these calculations on my own. He then referred to me two companies that can do the calculations and make custom made springs if needed.

The name of the companies are, "Coil Spring Specialties out of Kansas (785-437-2025), and Eaton Detroit Spring out of Michigan (313-963-3839). The Moog technician remarked that Coil Spring Specialties are priced better, however, Eaton Detroit Spring is very

Officer's Corner (continued)

By Tom Monzo

proud of their products and may have the technical support that I need.

I called Eaton and spoke to a guy named William. He knew exactly what I wanted to do and offered to make a custom-made spring for the rear that will make my car sit about two inches higher. He suggested that I replace the rear coil springs first and then see if I liked the way that the car sat. If not, I can then replace the front coil springs and raise the ride height again. The cost of the rear coil springs are \$282.00 which includes insulators and shipping. Rear coil springs from Eaton for a 1965 GTO with a 2-inch lift are part # (MC1281+2) and they are non-returnable. They also have a 1 ½ inch lift for the rear with a part # (MC1281+112) which are returnable with a 15% restocking fee. The coil springs are more expensive than Moog, but if you're trying to increase

your stance, I think the extra money is worth it.

My plan is to buy the coil springs later this spring and be ready for the summer, but first, Spring Carlisle awaits me and I'll be making my annual trip out east before I dust off the GTO in late April.

I hope that Richard Lentinello from Hemmings approves of my technical writing for this month's newsletter. He claims to read club web sites from time to time, so if you're reading this Rich, "Happy Motoring from the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club!"

Member News



Kirk McFarland - April 2

Rob Milko - April 4

Sam Depe - April 8

Anita Louttit - April 9

Joe Barber - April 16

Eric Vicker - April 19

Teri Solomon - April 19

Jack and Cheryl George - April 24



New Members

No new members this month



Question of the Month

By our members

This month's question: What is your favorite cruise season event, for example car show, cruise, swap meet, or convention, and why?

- My favorite swap meet in hands down spring Carlisle. Rows and rows of cars for sale and rows and rows of parts for sale. Love the car auction on Friday night. Lots of people and excitement. Great places to go for great food in downtown Carlisle. Been going for many years and planning to go many more. – *Rob Milko*
- National convention when I'm able to go. See lots of great cars and meet some really nice people. – *Ken*
- Saturday nights at Norwin because it's close. – *Pete Muro*
- Norwin Hills. Great to see old and young together. – *Jim*
- There three cruises in my area that are enjoyable, Beaver Falls, New Brighton and Beaver. These are all shut the main street down and we park on the street. Then cars cruise up and down the street all day. But Norwalk usually conflicts with Beaver and the GTO picnic conflicts with New Brighton. So Beaver Falls is my favorite because I can always make it. We have our favorite place to park by a grassy spot with a large tree and just sit there with friends and watch the cars go up and down the street and eat. I also like going to Norwalk and watching the drag races and eating ice cream. – *Alan Fabritius*
- I've enjoyed the GTOAA conventions I've attended, even though I haven't taken my GTO. They're a chance to see a lot of other GTOs, meet fellow Pontiac enthusiasts and also to explore the local attractions and history in the cities where the conventions are held. – *Jim Longo*
- I am not the best person to answer this question because I do not attend many events. However, I will answer to participate in this part of the newsletter. I think Jim came up with a very good idea posing these questions each month. My favorite event is the Norwin Hills cruise. I like it because a number of members go (so there are people to sit and talk to) and I also like leaving as a group. A line of GTOs leaving Norwin always makes a lot of heads turn. I really enjoy driving down Route 30 in my 68 convertible with John Owoc in his 70 convertible. Tops down, running side by side down Route 30. Very cool. – *Mike Louttit*

Question of the Month (continued)

By our members

This month's question: What is your favorite cruise season event, for example car show, cruise, swap meet, or convention, and why?

- Tough question, I like all the car cruises, but enjoy the Conventions and our Shriner event the best. – *Anonymous*
- My favorite event of the year is the Shriner's Car Show. It's one of the last opportunities that we of the year to show off our cars and to raise money for a good cause! – *Tom Monzo, Jr.*
- Judged car shows and participant voting second. The competition and meeting so many great people and sharing stories is the best part. We have made so many new friends where ever we go with the car....that's what it's all about. – *Stan O'Rourke*
- Cruise, I can see all of our friends that you don't see every day – *Chris Sklenar*
- Definitely the GTOAA convention, If you are a real GTO enthusiast like myself that is where you would want to be surrounded with the best GTOs in the country. – *Ron Sklenar*
- Woodward Dream Cruise #1 GTOAA or POCI National Conventions #2 Locally New Brighton Cruise, I've never been to the Big Beaver event but hope to get there this year. - *Bob Wessel*
- The Vintage Grand Prix. – *Doug Sappington*
- Any cruise event that get our chapter together, being with friends make any event better. We love our GTO family. – *Kirk McFarland*
- At the top of my list is the first weekend in August in Norwalk, Ohio, for the Ames Pontiac Nationals. It is held at the Norwalk(Summit) Raceway Park. There are usually 500+ Pontiacs on the show side and 500+ Pontiacs on the race side. GTO's are everywhere, several hundred of them. This is a must for a Pontiac/GTO lover. – *Bill Gilbert*

Car of the Month



Click the link to visit our club store at:

<http://stores.customautoapparel.net/greater-pittsburgh-gto-club-apparel>

There is also a link from our website.

**We have polo shirts, denim shirts, sweatshirts, jackets,
hats, license plates, and more!**

Club Schedule

Always check the calendar on our web site for the latest information about our schedule.

SEASONAL WEEKLY CLUB CRUISES

- New Norwin Hills Car Cruise Saturday nights starting April 7th
- Victory Car Cruise, Cranberry Township, Friday nights starting May 25th

April 17, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Ladles Kitchen

516 Pittsburgh Street

Springdale PA 15144

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

April 28, 2018

Downtown Irwin Car Cruise

Irwin PA

12:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

May 15, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Ladles Kitchen

516 Pittsburgh Street

Springdale PA 15144

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

June 19, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Location TBD

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

June 26-30, 2018

GTOAA National Convention

Valley Forge, PA

July 17, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Location TBD

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

August 19, 2018

Club-Sponsored Event

Syria Shrine Car Show

Cheswick PA 15024

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

August 21, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Location TBD

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

September 8, 2018

Club Picnic

Maple Grove

White Oak Park

11:00 a.m.—

September 18, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Location TBD

6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

October 16, 2018

General Membership Meeting

Location TBD

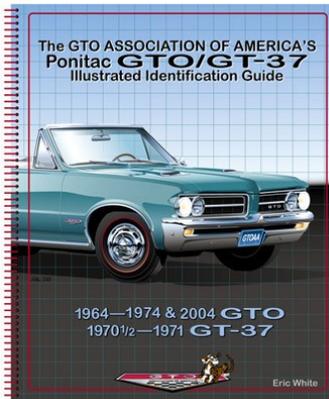
6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM Meeting

Meetings and events will be added as they're identified.



FOR SALE: 1970 Hood – **REDUCED!** Excellent condition - \$200.
Email John Owoc at je70gto@outlook.com.

FOR SALE: 2016 Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club Ceramic Mugs, limited number available. Cannot be shipped. \$4.00 each. If interested contact Chris Sklenar at 412-678-8402 or gnx547@comcast.net



This original version of Eric White's Illustrated Identification Guide is now available **in very limited numbers**. If you are in the process of restoring a GTO or looking to purchase a GTO this book is a must have for identification purposes. It is a one stop shop for everything GTO. This book has 118 pages of information. This book is used by the GTOAA in support of its annual judged concours event. Includes production numbers, weights & measures, assembly line codes, sales codes, casting numbers, drive train, decoding info for VIN. & Fisher Body data tag. Also included are options and accessories numbers descriptions and prices, tune-up specs, and more. Covers the years 1964 - 1974 and 2004 model years. If interested contact Chris Sklenar at 412 -678-8402 or gnx547@comcast.net

Send any items for sale or wanted to 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 15th of the month to be included in the next issue. Once included in the Newsletter, it's the member's responsibility to provide notice of any desired modification or request that the advertisement be discontinued.



We are looking for club tech advisors and meeting speakers. Tech advisors can specialize in certain year(s) of GTOs or in some function related to our hobby (general mechanics, bodywork, etc.). If you are interested in becoming a tech advisor or a speaker at one of our meetings, please contact any of the officers listed on the front of this newsletter. Thank you.



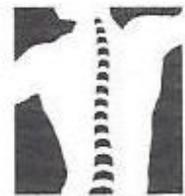
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AZ Transmissions

Club member Tom Monzo notes that AZ Transmissions rebuilt the tranny and rear end in his GTO. Throughout the two week process, Tim made sure that he understood everything that they were repairing, kept in touch throughout the repair and asked Tom to come to the shop several times to see the damaged parts and to review the costs of the repair. Tom was very pleased with their service and highly recommend AZ Transmissions for your classic car and daily driver repairs.

AZ Transmissions
Complete Auto Care

Tim & Jim Bassett
Managers
bassetttransmissions@yahoo.com

4065 Greensburg Pike
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Phone: 412-271-3980
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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 or newsletter@greaterpghgto.com. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue.

Membership Information

Please see the Membership Application included in this newsletter.

Sponsor Information

Please see the Sponsor Application included in this newsletter.

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 Car Club Information

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club was formed in 1998 and is an official chapter of the GTO Association of America. Beginning 1/1/2015, we are a 100% GTOAA membership club which means every member of our club must also be a member of the GTOAA. 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 Car 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 locations identified on the Club Schedule within the Club Newsletter. Dinner starts at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 7:00.

Membership dues are \$45.00 per year and must be paid by 12/15 of the previous year. The \$45 includes the \$10 dues for our club and the \$35 dues for the GTOAA.

Address Change?

Has your address, phone, or email recently changed? Please notify Cheryl Kasper at secretary@greaterpghgto.com. This will help us keep you informed about the club. Thank you.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GREATER PITTSBURGH GTO CAR CLUB

c/o Cheryl Kasper
1230 Craig Drive
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

Member	Last Name	First Name	Birth Date
Spouse	Last Name	First Name	Anniversary Date
Address	Street	City	State Zip
Phone	Home	Cell	
Email Address			
GTO Year(s)/ Body Style(s)			
GTOAA Number (see below)	Membership Number	Exp. Date	
Referred By	Name	GTOAA Number (of referring person)	
Signature		Date	

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club is a chapter of the GTO Association of America (GTOAA). All members of the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club must be members of the GTOAA. We will collect dues for both organizations. Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club dues are \$10 per calendar year. GTOAA dues are \$35 per year for US residents.

If you are not a GTOAA member, leave the GTOAA membership information above blank. You will receive a new membership from the GTOAA. If you are already a GTOAA member, please include your GTOAA membership information above. Your GTOAA membership will be extended by one year.

If you prefer to receive the Club Newsletter and other communications through U.S. mail rather than through email and the Club website, you may do so for an additional cost of \$10 per year to cover printing and postage expenses. Please indicate your preference by checking below:

Annual dues and GTOAA membership, \$45

Annual dues and GTOAA membership, U.S. mail communication, \$55

Please make your check payable to the Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club and mail your check and this application to the address above.

Tom Monzo, Jr.
President
724-744-1947
president@greaterpghgto.com

Roger Kral
Vice-President
724-744-7898
vice.president@greaterpghgto.com

John Owoc
Treasurer
412-373-0325
treasurer@greaterpghgto.com

Cheryl Kasper
Secretary
724-515-7629
secretary@greaterpghgto.com

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SPONSOR APPLICATION

GREATER PITTSBURGH GTO CAR CLUB

c/o Cheryl Kasper
1230 Craig Drive
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Car Club is an official chapter of the GTO Association of America (GTOAA). Our club is for any enthusiast interested in the enjoyment, restoration, and preservation of the Pontiac GTO. We currently have over 60 members. Since hosting the national convention in 2014, our website visits, Facebook likes, and Twitter follows have grown significantly. We publish a monthly newsletter, *Goats Cruisin' the 'Burgh*, that is sent to all of our members and is available on our website.

Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

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City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Website _____

Sponsorship Levels

- \$100/year
 - Full page advertisement in our monthly newsletter
 - Your logo with link to your website on our website Sponsors page
- \$50/year
 - Half page advertisement in our monthly newsletter
 - Your logo with link to your website on our website Sponsors page
- \$25/year
 - Quarter page advertisement in our monthly newsletter
 - Your logo with link to your website on our website Sponsors page

Please send logo to webmaster@greaterpghgto.com for the advertisement.

Please send any questions to officers@greaterpghgto.com.

Please send this application with check to Cheryl Kasper 1230 Craig Drive North Huntingdon, PA 15642.

The Greater Pittsburgh GTO Club reserves the right to reject any application for any reason.

Tom Monzo, Jr. President 724-744-1947 president@greaterpghgto.com	Roger Kral Vice-President 724-744-7898 vice.president@greaterpghgto.com	John Owoc Treasurer 412-373-0325 treasurer@greaterpghgto.com	Cheryl Kasper Secretary 724-515-7629 secretary@greaterpghgto.com
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