



Valley of the Goats

February 2016

Join us Saturday for Pontiac Night and Our Monthly Meeting, 3:30 pm, Sweet Tomatoes

Desk of the Prez



Hi everyone,

First off, please keep the family of **Bill Clark** in your prayers. Bill, a long-time club member, died in mid-January, shortly before our club's After Christmas party. Bill's family has asked us to help find an appraiser for his 1965 GTO.

Bill was a regular at our meetings for a long time, and his black '65 was a real head turner.

Second, see the registration form below for the **19th annual Buick-Olds-Pontiac and GMC car show**, taking place March 13 at the Pavilions. This is a great show for our club and an important fund-raiser, so we want a great turnout. We can also use some volunteers to help manage the show – everything from judges to show car parkers, to manning the raffle table. Contact me if you can help.

Third, I wanted to give you a full report on our efforts at the **Silver Classic Car Auction**, which took place Jan. 26-30 at Fort McDowell Casino. It's been an interesting last few weeks for a number of your fellow GTO'ers working on behalf of the club at the auction. We got the word with about 10 days to spare from auction owner Mitch Silver that the company could use our help in organizing the auction cars and staging them for the event. With not much time to get folks on board and signed up we enlisted the bulk of our club officers and a number of available members to help pull off this fundraising event. I want to thank those that were able to step up and help out. In no necessary order I want to thank the following for finding the time and energy to help make this venture a real success: Mike Jewell, Bill McCoy, Lauren Bolks (non-member) Mark Neumann, Howard Thorpe, Tim Blattner, Steve Groce, Frank Gostyla, Guy Ferstl, Thom and Elly Mohr, Kevin and Jeanell Fein, George Newcomer (non-member), Ron Crossman, Carl Bylander, Jim Einck, Russ Bartos, and Stan Ford.

Some interesting statistics:

- We had 18 members and 2 non-members work.
- We had two of our members' wives.
- Hours ranged from 13 each day for some to as little as 6 hours for others depending on their available schedule.
- 473 total volunteer hours with a payout of \$10 per day to cover fuel, food, etc. to each member who participated will be about \$470.00. Silver Auction provided coffee, water, soda, sandwiches, donuts, cake, and cookies.

In addition to the January auction each year, Silver auctions also take place in March and November (over Thanksgiving). Our hope is to provide support for those as well. These dates should be three days each and we should handle about 250 cars max. The January auction next year will be 500+ cars and run five days.

We impressed the Silver Auction Group and they have indicated that our presence greatly increased their service, timing, coordination, safety, and flexibility, and that they'd like to have us on board at all of their events. Your board will be generating a base letter to them thanking them for the opportunity and to address issues we feel could be modified to help process, locate, and retrieve cars and promote their auction. That being said now is as good a time as any for me to address these future opportunities.



Our club calendar was a sellout for 2016! Special thanks to Tony D'Angelo and Scott Svenheim for taking care of gathering photos, design, and printing.

As indicated above, a relatively small group of folks put in an average of 10-11 hours per day (some did 13 hours multiple days). This is not the norm, nor should it be expected that such a small group do all of the work. As opportunities arise we need our base members

to step up and help out. Personally I'd prefer to do split shifts each day, maybe working 4 hour shifts (over a 12-hour day), each day, every other day or whatever you can sign up for. It takes a lot of pressure off everyone else and we're all going to benefit from this opportunity.

As things develop, we will have time to review the demands and hopefully have you, our base membership, step up to volunteer. We will train, supervise, and maybe even carpool to eliminate wasted efforts on everyone's part.

Your Board is open to ideas and suggestions, but remember this is a Club event, generated to help pull in revenue for our club. If things work the way we expect, I can see our chapter returning this investment back to the members in so many different ways.

P.S. Just a reminder, we will be having our next club meeting **this Saturday, Feb. 13, 3:30 pm., at Sweet Tomatoes during Pontiac Night at the Pavilions.**

Happy Motoring...



Santa's sleds: Our After-Christmas Party hosted by Frank and Tony Gostyla on Jan. 16 looked like a Pontiac dealership from the 1960s. Great turnout!

Denny Deal

President, Cactus GTO Club

Pontiac legends pass on...

In Memoriam — Art Fitzpatrick

Smoke Signals sadly reports the loss of a great friend within our hobby.

Iconic automotive illustrator Art Fitzpatrick — a huge contributor to Pontiac's marketing successes from 1959 through 1971 — has died at the age of 96.

Art, together with professional partner Van Kaufmann (who passed away in 1995), teamed-up to create some of the most-memorable illustrations ever seen in automotive magazines, advertisements and brochures.

They arrived at Pontiac at the right time, just as General Manager "Bunkie" Knudsen was kicking-off the new Wide-Track era for the 1959 model year. Art's unique illustration style — emphasizing the low, wide and sleek designs that would become Pontiac's trademark — was perfectly suited for Pontiac's exciting new image.

While Art was responsible for rendering the featured cars, Van would separately create the backgrounds from locations near and far. Their separate, individual contributions were then artistically merged and became true masterpieces. All this happened during a time when most other car manufacturers had long abandoned illustrations altogether in favor of photography for their ads.

AF and VK (as their illustrations were signed) were ultimately major contributors to Pontiac's rise to number three in sales amongst domestic automotive brands. Their 12-year tenure at Pontiac almost perfectly coincides with the years Pontiac held that position. Their volume of work included 285 pieces commissioned by Pontiac.

Art came from an artistic family, as both his father and grandfather were artists. He attended Detroit's Society of Arts and Crafts and the Detroit School of Art. Born in 1919,



he served during WWII in Naval Aviation Training and in the Naval Office of Research and Invention.

Prior to his association with Pontiac, Art had worked for several auto makers including Studebaker, Mercury, Kaiser and Buick. Even earlier, he worked with Dutch Darrin as a designer, styling the classic 1940 Packards. After leaving Pontiac, the AF and VK duo did some work for Opel.

Art never seemed to totally retire. Late in his career, he designed two series of automotive stamps for the U.S. Postal Service.

He also attended several POCI national conventions. I remember seeing him in Red Wing, MN and in Dayton, OH. In 2007, I helped coordinate guest speakers for the Tulsa, OK convention and was honored that he accepted my invitation to attend as our VIP. I had the pleasure of providing local transportation for him and his wife in my 1964 Pontiac Safari.

I know his talent is something we will forever enjoy; he will be sorely missed. Look for a retrospective on Art & Van's artwork in an upcoming issue of Smoke Signals. — Editor

Famed Pontiac racer Jesse Tyree dies

Tyree, who ran a successful shop making headers and racing Pontiacs throughout the 1960s and 1970s, including a Tempest given to him by Pontiac engineer John DeLorean, passed away Feb. 1. Read more details, including pictures of his famed racers, and remembrances from fans at

<http://bangshift.com/bangshift1320/pontiac-drag-racing-legend-speed-parts-manufacturer-and-straight-line-pioneer-jess-tyree-dies/>



Don't forget to pay your 2016 Club Dues!!

It's BOP-GMC Time!

Come join your fellow club members on March 13 at the biggest Pontiac car show in Arizona! See form below to register your car (s). Direct any questions to Tom Knecht.

19th BUICK - OLDS - PONTIAC-GMC **BOP & GMC CAR SHOW**

Classics, Limited Editions, Sports & Late Models

Awards in over 50 classes

SUNDAY, March 13th, 2016
10 AM to 3 PM
At The "Rock and Roll McDonalds"
Scottsdale Pavilions Shopping Center

Hosted by The Desert Renegades Pontiac Club and Cactus GTO Club of Arizona

Questions about the Show? Call Tom, 602-708-6960 or Bob, 602-228-1030
Show limited to first **225 cars**, dash plaque for cars and **priority parking (with your class) for pre-registrants.**
"Day of Show" entries will park with your brand.
Early Bird entry only \$20 per car before March 5, 2016. \$25 registration after March 5 and day of show.

Awards at 2:00 PM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Car 1: Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____
Stock: _____ Modified: _____ Un-restored: _____ Custom: _____

Car 2: Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

Stock: _____ Modified: _____ Un-Restored: _____ Custom: _____

Stock: Stock exterior & engine color, stock seats, factory wheels
Modern battery, gauges & safety ok .

Modified :Chromed engine,headers, aftr mkt wheels, shifter. Wrong year color & options, fuel inj.,blowers, etc.

Unrestored : 70% orig. paint & interior. Orig.vinyl top and Vert top. No repaints, totally stock

Make checks payable to:

Desert Renegades Pontiac Club

Send to: Tom Knecht, 6727 w Corrine Dr, Peoria, Az. 85381

Signature Required. I, _____ do not hold Desert Renegades of Arizona Pontiac Car Club & Cactus GTO Club of Az or McDonald's liable for any damages to vehicles while attending the BOPC Show March, 13, 2016.

Entry 1st Car-
Early-\$20.00, after \$25.00.....\$ _____
Second Car- \$10.00.....\$ _____
Show Tee Shirt-
S _M _L _XL _...-\$13.00...\$ _____
2XL _3XL _...-\$15.00.....\$ _____

Collared Shirt (**Pre Order Only**)-
S _M _L _XL _...\$23 \$ _____
2XL _3XL _...\$26

Early Bird Tickets
20 for \$10.00 Or 7 for \$5.00.. \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Where do you buy high-octane fuel?

If you want your high-strung Pontiac to sip high-octane fuel, here are three suggestions from club members on where to find it. Let us know if you have others in your neighborhood.

- **Tom Thumb Fresh Market** on the corner of E. Bell Rd & 94th St. in Scottsdale (near West World)
- **King Balancing**, downtown Glendale. 110 leaded Sunoco and 100 unleaded.
- **Sinclair Gas Station**: SW corner of Scottsdale and Lincoln. 101 octane fuel and they pump it for you.

Car Shows, Cruise-ins, Special Events

It's car show season, so here's a short list of activities coming up over the next couple of months. For more information, go to www.cactusgto.com and www.desertcruisers.com

Feb. 13: Concours in the Hills auto show
Fountain Park in Fountain Hills, AZ
9:00 am-2:00 pm
Vehicle entries are a minimum donation of \$50.
Spectator admission and parking is free. **Take a nice drive before our Cactus GTO Club Meeting.**



March 9: Monthly Cactus GTO Club Meeting, Denny's Restaurant, Tempe (corner of Highway 143 and University Drive) 7:00 pm

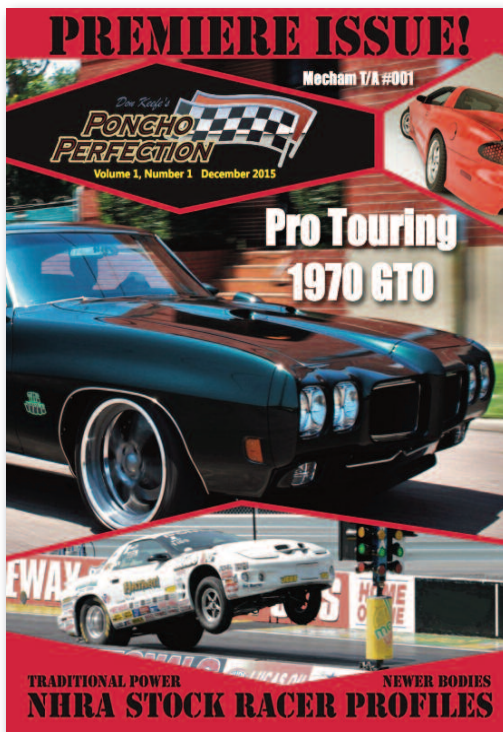


March 13: Buick-Olds-Pontiac and GMC Car Show
Rock 'in Roll McDonalds, Pavilions Shopping Center
10:00 am-3:00 pm (see registration form above)

March 19: Todd Harding & Son Swap Meet
Arizona State Fairgrounds, 1826 W. McDowell Rd,
Saturday/Sunday: 7:00 am to 2:00 pm More info: (480) 288-SWAP
todd@phoenixcarswapmeet.com



Don Keefe's
**PONCHO
PERFECTION**



DON KEEFE REINVENTS THE PONTIAC MAGAZINE

After nine successful years as Editor-in-Chief of *Smoke Signals*, Don Keefe returns with a new magazine that reunites former contributors from *High Performance Pontiac*, *Pontiac Enthusiast* and *Smoke Signals* in one place:

PONCHO PERFECTION MAGAZINE

If you liked what Don did before, you are going to love this. With names like Rocky Rotella, David Butler, Chris Phillip, Eric White, Ted Alexander, Dave Bonaskiewich, Stan Rarden, Jim Black, Jeff Denison, Tim Sickle, and Diego Rosenberg, among others, you know that the quality will be unsurpassed. Entertaining and insightful editorials, exciting photography, accurate tech and an all-encompassing view of the Pontiac world, *Poncho Perfection* is filling the void in the market and uniting the Pontiac hobby into one cohesive unit.

Oh yeah, and if you're wondering what happened to Mike Carmichael, he is with *Poncho Perfection* now. Why not join us, too?

The Future of the Pontiac Hobby Just Got a Lot Brighter!

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FREE UNLIMITED ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS

WWW.PONCHOPERFECTION.COM



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www.cactusgto.com

Chapter member, GTO Association of America