

## Pontiac Night at Pavilions This Saturday

Join us for our monthly club meeting @3:30 pm!

### Blown Pontiacs and the Mickey Thompson story

When I was vacationing this summer near Portland, I discovered the World of Speed, a well done automotive racing museum that include local and national racing heroes and their cars. But it was a surprise



to see a nice collection of Mickey



Thompson's Bonneville record breaking Challenger 1 land speed record cars—all with Pontiac power

plants. The most well-known was the Challenger 1 (left), with four supercharged

Pontiac motors that took Thompson past the 408 mph mark in 1968.

Forty-eight years later, during Bonneville Speed Week in mid-August, Mickey's son

Danny, now 68, ran 406.7-mph with the updated Challenge 2 streamliner (right), the machine the two Thompsons had worked on together before Danny's tragic death in 1988. The Challenger 2 streamliner was equipped with twin 500-cubic-inch Hemi V-8s. Some great stories about Mickey Thompson, as told by son Danny, at [vimeo.com/70435958](http://vimeo.com/70435958)



The museum also featured other historic vehicles, including vintage funny cars, drag boats owned in the Portland-Seattle area, and Indy cars. — *Mark Neumann*

The very popular "Barn Find" section of the Muscle Car Nationals, held November 21-22, had a real gem on display this year. The Grand Marque IV Pontiac show car – first displayed at the Chicago Auto Show in 1964 – made a noteworthy appearance for fans of factory experimentals. GM reportedly sold the car through Pontiac dealer Peter Epseen's Skokie, Illinois used car lot back in 1968. James Lanos purchased the car but never restored it. Although Mr. Lanos passed away almost 20 years ago, the car has remained with his family and is now being offered for sale.

The Muscle Car Nationals is held every November in Rosemont, Illinois, and draws hundreds of rare muscle cars and thousands of spectators.

#### 1964 Bonneville Grand Marque IV Show Car





## Be a Part of the Silver Auction Experience!

**Nov. 23-27 • Fort McDowell Casino**

**Do you like driving nice cars? Would you like to get paid to do it?**

**Then we would like your help next month at the Silver Classic Car Auction**

The Cactus GTO Club is looking for help to stage and drive cars for this auction coming up over the Thanksgiving Day holiday. All shifts are open to members of the Cactus GTO Club, the POCI chapters Desert Renegades and Arizona Chapter, and their family and friends (must be at least 21 and have a good driving record)

The volunteer shifts will be 4-6 hours in length, and the Cactus GTO Club will help cover your gas expenses and the Silver auction provides meals and drinks throughout the day. Here is where we can use your help and the dates:

**WEDNESDAY, Nov. 23:** 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM. Consists of two shifts.

Tasks: Vehicle registration & assigned parking

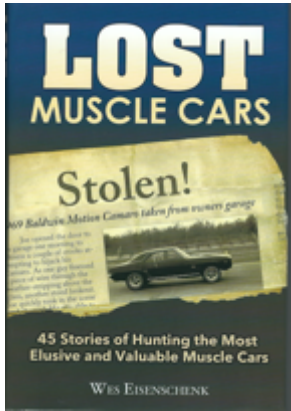
**THURSDAY, Nov. 24:** 8:00 AM – Noon (morning only, 1 shift). Registration/parking

**FRIDAY, Nov. 25:** 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Two shifts. Vehicle registration/parking and auction begins. Help with driving, staging cars across line.

**SATURDAY, Nov 26:** 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM Two shifts driving, staging cars

**SUNDAY, Nov. 27:** 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM Two shifts, driving, staging cars.

To volunteer/sign-up for shifts: Contact Mike Jewell ([mdjewell@air-pipe.com](mailto:mdjewell@air-pipe.com)), Denny Deal ([dennyd46@cox.net](mailto:dennyd46@cox.net)) or Tim Blattner ([tblattne@me.com](mailto:tblattne@me.com))



**STILL TAKING ORDERS!**

The club has agreed to buy 10 copies of this new book. Let us know if we can order one for you! Make great birthday gifts or just treat yourself! If we order 20 or more, we get it for \$15.00.

Contact Mark @ [newsmark@cox.net](mailto:newsmark@cox.net) and let him know how many copies you want.

## Lost Muscle Cars

*45 stories of hunting the most elusive and valuable muscle cars*

Author: Wes Eisenschek

Lost Muscle Cars, the newest offering from CarTech Books, takes the reader through 45 stories of hunting, finding and losing some of the most famous muscle cars of all-time. Among the stories is the hunt and capture of the elusive 8th Trans Am convertible and is a missing 68 GTO ragtop featuring a Royal Bobcat upgrade.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Board has finalized our 2016/17 club meeting dates. Here is a handy list to mark your calendars at home. Don't miss a meeting!

**Sept. 14:** Club meeting, Denny's, Tempe (Highway 143/University Drive), 7:00 pm

**Oct. 8:** Club meeting, Denny's at Pavilions (Pontiac Nite): 3:30 pm

**Nov. 9:** Club meeting, Denny's, Tempe (Highway 143/University Drive), 7 pm

**Nov 23-27: (Club Event) Silver Auction, Fort McDowell Casino**

**Dec. 10:** Club meeting, Denny's at Pavilions (Pontiac Nite) 3:30 pm

2017

**Jan. 15-22: (Club Event) Silver Auto Auction, Fort McDowell Casino**

**Jan. 29: (Club Event) Cactus GTO After Christmas Party\***

**Feb. 11:** Club meeting, Denny's at Pavilions (Pontiac Nite) 3:30 pm

**March 8:** Club meeting, Denny's, Tempe (Highway 143/University Drive), 7 pm

**March 26: (Club Event) Buick, Olds, Pontiac and Cadillac Show, Pavilions**

**April 8:** Club meeting, Denny's at Pavilions (Pontiac Nite) 3:30 pm

**May 10:** Club meeting, Denny's, Tempe (Highway 143/University Drive) 7 pm

•Tentative date

# 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](http://www.cactusgto.com) and [www.desertcruisers.com](http://www.desertcruisers.com)

**\*\*\* Oct. 8: Pontiac Nite at Pavilions and Cactus GTO Club Meeting: 3:30 pm @ Denny's Restaurant (behind McDonalds)\*\*\***

**Oct. 15** – 8 am to 3 pm, 3rd Annual Laveen Heritage Car Show, 5001 W Dobbins Rd. (Laveen Education Center). Contact: Art Downs; Phone: 480.239.0886; [artdowns@cox.net](mailto:artdowns@cox.net)

Also: Tatum Ranch Golf Club Car Show. Cave Creek. Info: <http://tatumranchcarshow.com/>

**Oct. 23** – 10 am to 2 pm, VCCA Central Arizona Car Show & Swap Meet, Glendale Community College, 6000 W Olive Ave.

**Oct. 29** – 8:30 am, Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up. Gourmet Breakfast before you pitch in and clean a beautiful mile of the Apache Trail. Head up to Tortilla Flat for lunch afterward. We supply all the bags, pickers, water, and June's beautiful brownies. Organizers: Tim & June Smith. 602.620.4120.



**Oct. 30** – 10 am to 3 pm, Stardust Building Supplies Car Show, 1720 W Broadway Rd., Mesa. Contact: Matt PUNCHES 480.695.8468, [mpunches@stardustbuilding.org](mailto:mpunches@stardustbuilding.org) <http://www.stardustbuilding.org/car-show.html>

**Nov. 18-20** – 8 am to 5 pm (Sun 3 pm), Goodguys 19th Southwest Nationals, Westworld of Scottsdale, 16601 N Pima Rd. <https://www.goodguys.com/swn-2016>.



**Nov 23-27** – Silver Auction, Fort McDowell Casino (Shea Blvd./Beeline Highway)



[http://silverauctions.com/auction\\_show.php](http://silverauctions.com/auction_show.php). **(CACTUS GTO CLUB EVENT-WE NEED DRIVERS! CONTACT MIKE JEWELL TO SIGN UP!!)**

Dec. 4 – Toys for Totz Christmas Car Show to Wickenburg, AZ. Details to come.



Dec 16-18 – 18th Annual Pontiac Heaven Weekend, Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park (I-10/Wild Horse Pass Blvd.) [http://pontiacheaven.org/2016\\_PH.html](http://pontiacheaven.org/2016_PH.html). Includes Phoenix Drag & Hot Rod Reunion (Dec. 17)

Special thanks to Club Board member **Guy Ferstl** for helping to gather information for this month's events calendar.

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#### **Board of Directors 2016/17**

Denny Deal, Frank Gostyla, Mike Jewell, Bill McCoy,  
Mark Neumann, Stan Ford, Carl Bylander, Tim Blattner,  
Guy Ferstl

#### **Officers**

Co-Vice-Presidents: Bill McCoy, Frank Gostyla

Treasurer: Mike Jewell

Assistant Treasurer: Guy Ferstl

Secretary: Mark Neumann

Webmaster: Scott Svenheim

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

Chapter member, GTO Association of America