



October 2020

Valley of the Goats/Express



Cactus GTOs/Desert Renegades next meeting, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2:30 pm. Martin Automobile Museum

First joint club meeting this Saturday!

We will meet at the beautiful Martin Auto Museum tomorrow, Oct. 17, to check out the cars at the museum – including our Adopt-A-Car Program's '67 Firebird convertible (below). Come hang with your Pontiac car buddies again, hear about restorations, engine rebuilds, new acquisitions, and what we have in store for the rest of 2020!



Date: Saturday, Oct. 17

Time: 2:30 pm (12:30 pm for Board members and officers; all welcome)

Place: The Martin Automobile Museum, 17641 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix (between Bell and Union Hills Road, east side of I-17). Phone:602.298.2377

For the protection of everyone, including other Museum visitors, **bring your mask.** And ... **DRIVE YOUR FAVORITE PONTIAC!**

Event Coverage

Pontiacs cruise to Pontiac for GTOAA Regional Show

9th Annual GTOAA Regional All Pontiac Cruise & Show

September 19-20, 2020

Pontiac, Ill.

By Paul Albinger Jr.

I left our summer home in Fond Du Lac, Wisc. On Friday, Sept. 18 for the 4-hour drive to Pontiac, thinking I'd be early to clean up the car and get settled before the start of the show the next day. I arrived around 2:45 and between 4 hotels there were 50-60 "Pontiacers" and their cars already there with cocktail hour in progress. It was a nice social night meeting new friends.



Due to COVID 19, the normal Saturday driving tours to visit personal collections (about 85 miles and 3 collections) was cancelled. Instead, an impromptu Cruise In was held downtown around the court house square with mid 70s temps and bright sunshine.

I got there about 9:30 am and about 75 cars were there. The count grew throughout the day. I

registered and then toured the Pontiac museum, which is a must see for everyone. The library and research center are amazing, as well as the cars and a lot of memorabilia. A large Route 66 museum and other museums are also in Pontiac, however they were closed due to Covid 19 precautions.



A free trolley tour highlighting the places of interests and the painted murals were really interesting and nice. Then I went on to meet new friends and talk "Pontiac." The day was topped off with dinner with everyone.



The Square in downtown Pontiac also has stores, shops, bars, and restaurants, and an awesome bakery, so there is plenty to do.

Sunday was the car show. I got one of the few parking spots around the square that were left and there is room for at least 100 cars. Adjacent streets and a municipal parking lot were used as well. All told, 211 Pontiacs registered for the show, which lasted all day with a high temperature of 74 degrees.

Judges reviewed cars in 23 classes of Pontiacs and awards covered 1st through 3rd place. The competition was stiff. About 25% of the cars were trailered in so some very

awesome vehicles. I was honored to take a 3rd place in the First-Generation Firebird Class with my '69 Firebird Convertible.

I did meet with Tim Dye, owner/curator of the Pontiac museum and editor of POCI's *Smoke Signals* magazine. He expressed his thanks for the monetary donation made to the Pontiac / Oakland Museum from the Desert Renegades and Cactus GTOs and said he would "love to have a group of Ponchos from AZ show up in the future."

ROAD TRIP!!!

If you do travel through Illinois you can easily spend an entire day especially with the other museums. Let's hope this COVID issue gets under control soon and who knows, maybe we can do a group trip!!!

***Hemmings* is looking for your favorite Pontiac stories**

Hemming's *Classic Car* magazine is honoring the Pontiac division in an upcoming issue.

"Whether you own a 1926 Model 6640 Coupe, a 1960 Catalina, 1974 Ventura, or a 1985 Grand Prix, you can help us celebrate the marque in fine fashion by sharing your photos and stories of long-term Pontiac ownership," the publication says on its website. "Tell us about the epiphany that delivered you to a Pontiac dealership to buy yours off the lot, or place an order for one tailored to your new car desires.



What inspired you to seek out a perfect example on a used car lot to be your first set of wheels, or how long did you harbor dreams of owning a vintage Pontiac before you finally bought one? And most importantly, what have you done with it since? What adventures have you recorded?"

Send your stories and photos via email to mlitwin@hemmings.com, or to Hemmings Motor News, attn: Matthew Litwin, 222 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201.

More information on the project is at www.cactusgto.com.



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