

The Heat is on...

But it's time to crank over those V8s and bring your favorite Pontiac (the one with air conditioning) **to our first club meeting of the season THIS SATURDAY, at Pavilions!** Park your car along our Pontiac Row (west side of McDonald's parking lot) and come into Denny's for our 3:30 pm meeting. The drinks are on us!



Scenes from this past year's Buick-Olds-Pontiac Show at Pavilions in March.

Review: GTOAA Nationals, June 26-July 1

Springfield, Ill. celebrates the Great One

By Denny Deal

(abridged version; see the full story at www.cactusgto.com/news.php#2017gtoaarecap)

Being the Chapter Coordinator for the GTO Association of America, I'm required to go to and participate in each of our national meets. This year's event in Illinois was well attended and full of things to do. I flew in on a red eye thru Chicago and then got a puddle-jumper to Springfield (population 116,500) arriving about 10:30 at night on the 26th. That first day is all about setting up the swap meet spaces, getting registration open, having the photographer ready for the rush and check into the hotel.

Like most nationals there were a lot of driving things to do. Springfield is located on the old Route 66 from Chicago to LA. You could take a comfortable bus ride on the Lincoln History Tour. Once in Pontiac, IL. you could visit The Pontiac-Oakland Museum, a World War II Museum, and a Route 66 Museum. Along with the museums, the multiple murals along the streets' buildings, the restaurants, and the





GTOAA by the Numbers...

- 19-20 chapters represented at Nationals
- 3,900 members worldwide (including 101 outside USA)
- 65%: GTOAA membership (minimum) for all chapter clubs

shops, emphasize how the people of Pontiac have kept the city alive and vibrant for its visitors.

Some of the changes the Board of Directors made at this meeting include:

- In 2018 the minimum chapter percentage of GTOAA members increases from 60% to 65%. We had seven (7) chapters under the 65% level and my goal is to help them get over that hump.

- Our next years' National Event will be held in Valley Forge, PA. If you are a history buff this is where Washington wintered his Continental Army before surprising the Hessians by crossing the Delaware and changing the history of the United States with its war against England. It's also a very prominent Civil War area with Gettysburg less than a couple of hours away.

- This last year we emphasized to all of the chapters that the "Legend" would publish chapter events provided they generated some decent pictures and maximum 700-word write up detailing the event. I think our BOP involvement and even one of our auctions could certainly qualify.

- This will be the last year that we print out the award certificates for both the membership and social media participation for each chapter. (Congrats to our newsletter (Mark Neumann) and website (Scott Svenheim) team for winning honors this year).

- We did lose two chapters this year: the Woodward GTO Tigers & the Western NY GTO Club. Neither were able to reorganize and meet the minimum GTOAA requirements for an accredited chapter.

All in all, it's nice to get to different parts of the country and talk to folks about our hobby. We have a lot of good, dedicated GTO folks that love their cars and enjoy showcasing them when they can. My only drawback is this is the first convention I've been to without one of my cars. It's a lot more fun when you drive to these events and are involved in the actual show. Next year is Valley Forge, PA, I think I'd be in contention for the long-distance award.

Happy motoring...

Getting "Macho" over the Trans Am

Those who have lived in the Valley a long time remember the work that Mecham Pontiac did on Trans Ams from 1977-79. Called the Macho T/A, the customized cars came with stiffer suspensions, modified 400 CI W72 motors, functional hood scoops, Hooker headers, and custom body lettering.

Brothers Dennis and Kyle Mecham (father Evan was the Pontiac dealer owner and later state governor before getting impeached), put together 325 of the modified T/As.

Five of the cars (four '78s and one '79) are going up on the block this Friday, Sept. 9 at Mecum's Dallas auction. Put in your bid for a piece of Arizona/Pontiac history!

For more info, go to <https://www.mecum.com/auctions/dallas-2017/collections/trans-am/>



Many Thanks...

Thom is a former Cactus GTO Club president and an active member. He and Elly have hosted numerous club functions over the years with the “Golden Goat.”



Cactus GTO's –

Elly and I want to thank the Cactus GTO's board and officers for the wonderful surprise(s) we received commemorating our 50th wedding anniversary. We are most appreciative of all that was done by the club and individual members to make this anniversary a very special event for us. The flower arrangement was absolutely beautiful, the gift card was a huge surprise and the note of recognition for our efforts in the club was greatly appreciated. As I write this, I just realized that over half of those 50 years we are celebrating have been as members of Cactus GTO's!

Thanks, too, to all the individual club members who took the time to send cards and notes of congratulations. We have quite a stack of good wishes and I hope I have acknowledged everyone individually – apologies to anyone I overlooked.

We look forward to sharing more club activities with everyone for many more anniversaries ☺

Thank you –

Thom & Elly

Thom & Elly Mohr



It's Car Show Season in AZ!



Sept. 15-16

Apache County Motorsports Day

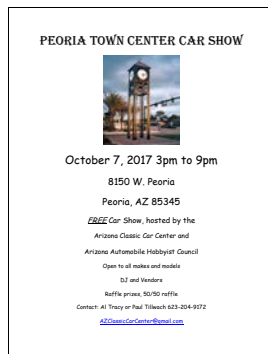
St. Johns City Park, St. Johns, AZ

More info: Steve Barcak @ 480.899.7873

Sept. 22-23

Andy Devine Rodeo Days and Car Show, Kingman, AZ

Info: www.AndyDevineDaysFestival.com



Oct. 7

Arizona Classic Car Show

8150 W. Peoria, Peoria Hosted by the Arizona Classic Car Center and the Arizona Automobile Hobbyist Council

Open to all makes and models, DJ and Vendors, Raffle prizes, 50/50 raffle. Contact: Al Tracy or Paul Tillwach, 623.204.9172

Oct. 14 Vintage Wings and Wheels

Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum

2017 North Greenfield Road, Mesa, spons. by Falcon Field and Southwest Street Rods; info: southweststreetrods.com/ 602.284.9785

Oct. 22

Stardust Building Supplies 2nd annual car show

Info: <http://www.stardustbuilding.org/car-show.html>

Contact: Jason Carlyle, 480.428.4760



Look for details soon on "Pontiac Week" coming in November!

PLAN YOUR CACTUS GTO CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2017



2017

Date	Event	Location	Time
(Sat.) Sept. 9	Monthly Club Mtg.	Dennys @ Pavilions	3:30 pm
(Wed) Oct. 11	Monthly Club Mtg.	Dennys @ Tempe	6:30/7:00 pm
(Sat.) Oct. 14	Club Event Car Clinic	Gostyla Garage	9 am-3 pm
(Sat.) Oct. 21	Club Event Adopt-A-Highway	Apache Trail	8 am-11 am
(Sun.) Nov. 5	All Pontiac and GMC Day	 Tucson	9 am-2 pm
Nov. 8	Club meeting	Dennys @ Tempe	6:30/7:00 pm
Nov. 11	Pontiac Night	Pavilions	3:00 pm –
Club Event			
Nov. 11-12	19 th Pontiac Heaven/Nostalgia Drags Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park, Chandler, AZ		
	(read this review of PH from 2006! www.hotrod.com/articles/hppp-0701-pontiac-performance-car-show/)		
Club Event			
Nov. 17-19	Swap Meet Space	Good Guys	Both Days
Dec. 9	Club meeting	Dennys @ Pavilions	3:30 pm–
Club Event			
Dec. 10*	Toyz for Totz Run	Wickenburg	

“Super Duty” Pontiac engineer Herb Adams reunites with his original concept car



Known for his work on the early Trans Am Firebirds and the 455 Super Duty program, Pontiac engineer Herb Adams got his first automotive itch as a designer. With the help of donated Pontiac body fabricators, he hand-built his aluminum '65 Vivant before focusing his efforts on the '69 Trans Am, GTO Judge, and other projects. The Vivant was bought by a collector in 2011, needing a total restoration. Last month, at the Pebble Beach Concours in Monterey, designer and car were reunited—and took first in class. Check out the original Pontiac 8-lug wheels. *More details next month.*

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Steve Barcak & friends Present-

September 15/16, 2017
Fri 5-8pm, Sat 8-2pm

9th Annual Apache County Motorsports Days

St Johns City Park

3rd west, 2nd south

Chili Contest!

Prizes for - Best Chili & r/u
People's choice



Free General Admission
Info 480-899-7873

Welcoming all years of cars, trucks, bikes, boats
Preregister for show before Sept. 5- \$20
Show Registration after Sept 5- \$25
Includes dash plaque, lunch w/drink
any vehicle with an engine!

Special thanks to our fine sponsors-
Please support them!

Friday eve- Meet & Greet
Cruise
Burger burn

Saturday- Car Show
Burn out contest
Food/Fun/Music

FOREST PROPERTIES, INC.
Estelle White 551-1268
Patti Rabie 528-8647
Carl Wilkins 551-3871

AJ's Cakes 245-5791
TLC's Family Kitchen 337-2030
Pioneer Title Agency 337-2025
Springerville Auto Wreckers 333-2230
Graves Propane 337-4760

St. Johns Market **ACE** 337-2261

Ferris' Towing 245-8656
NAPA Springerville 333-2688
Snowflake 536-4251
Shon' Low 537-4317
Jones Automotive 337-4177
New Performance 245-4279
Western Drug & General Store Springerville 333-4321
St. Johns 337-2229

AJ & Jodi Sweney
Metal Mayhem Custom & Collision
(Snowflake) 536-2008

Name _____
address _____

City/St/ph# _____

Vehicle entry (\$25)
(\$20 before Sept 5)
 Chili contest
Entry (free)

event t-shirt \$15(m-xl) (2x-4x \$17)
 sweat shirt \$20

Size

If you choose to Pre Register, please do so by mail or in person before Sept 5
check payable to Steve Barcak. Send to HCR30 box 13 St Johns, Az 85936



Officers and Board of Directors 2017/2018

Co-Vice-Presidents: Bill McCoy, Frank Gostyla

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Mark Neumann

Treasurer: Mike Fleury

Club Activities: Carl Bylander/Stan Ford

GTOAA Representative: Denny Deal

AAHC Representative: Dan Huskisson

Board members: Tim Blattner, Carl Bylander, Denny Deal, Mike Fleury, Stan Ford, Frank Gostyla, Mike Jewell, Bill McCoy, Mark Neumann, Jim Zeivel

Webmaster: Scott Svenheim

www.cactusgto.com

Cactus GTOs Inc., Chapter member, GTO Association of America