

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1987

MADISON COUNTY VICE

With our President recuperating from the holidays, I was asked to write a letter for the Paw Prints. I thought to myself; What should I write? Since I don't get the opportunity to write a letter for the Paw Prints very often I figured I should go for it.

First of all, for those of you who don't know who your Vice President is, my name is Donna Landis. I'm the woman from London, in Madison County who drives the '69 Damn GTO or some of you refer to as b_nn_n_ bo_t (censored by the editor). When I first joined the club, I never thought I'd be an officer. I'm glad to have the opportunity to work with a bunch of great people. Most of you don't know how much work and time goes into the club. Thanks to about a dozen people who donate their time, our club has grown. I would like to see every club member take the time to get involved, after all it is your club too! Even if its just a suggestion or some information you can share, thats something.

I'm looking forward to the coming year. There will be some big events going on. The first being the GTOACO Spring Show and Swap in May. Anyone preparing their car for the GTOAA Nationals or looking for parts should not miss this event. Remember If you sign yourself to help you get first choice at those parts you've been looking for.

In July, the GTOAA Nationals are in Columbus. That should make any club member feel good, knowing our club was selected to help. Thats enough to make any Ohio GTO lovers blood boil.

Other things in the works include a 1988 calendar, club picnic and informative tech sessions. I don't see how any member would not come out to our meetings and be a part of what is going on.

1987 is going to be a grrreat year and I am looking forward to working with our president, Nick. There are only two things I refuse to do for him; stick my head under his hood or fetch his food. Nick your on your own with those.



Lynn Inskeep "Mrs. Party" set up another great one.



Andy Syrkin presenting a bunch of awards to a deserving few.



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Neal Blankenship

Jeff Inskeep

Jeff Ruffer

Photographer

Jim Dingess



I've been called worse.



Hey Nick, Guess Who?



Next Meeting February 11, 1987

Place: Donato's Pizza

Party Room

1815 Brice Rd.

N. W corner of Brice & Livingston

Reynoldsburg, OH

Time: 7:00 pm

The holidays are over and winter will be too. Lets get that GTO enthusiasm going by attending this meeting.

LET'S HAVE A GTO CHRISTMAS

"Run, run Rudolph
Santa's gotta make it to town.
Santa, make him hurry
Tell him he can take the freeway down..."

...to the GTOACO Christmas Party at the airport Holiday Inn where a lavish buffet of various salads, two kinds of meat entrees, and other assorted goodies, including a large sheet cake, was spread before attending party-goers, who arrived full of the Christmas spirit. A few of us had arrived at the motel during the late afternoon to take advantage of the pool, hottub, and sauna to prepare ourselves for the rigors of hearty partying that lay ahead. Most everyone else arrived around 7:00 p.m. for the pre-buffet cocktail hour with the buffet commencing at 8:00 p.m.

With the temperature hovering near 14 degrees that night, the Christmas party was a chance to warm up to good conversation, good food, and good party enthusiasm. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to visit with one another at a social event rather than the usual setting of a business meeting. Tom Gorby, who never misses a GTOACO party, flew in from Washington, D.C. just to participate in the yuletide cheer. Club members also enjoyed meeting several wives of members for the first time, such as Nadine Ruffer, and reacquainting themselves with other wives who don't often attend club functions: Sharon Barton, Kathi Syrkin, Connie Knight, Karen Motter, Sue Dingess, and Kathy Parker.

GTOACO fashion highlights of the evening included Nancy Whaley's sexy two-piece Starlight-black and Polar-white ensemble, Kathi Syrkin's shimmering Signet-gold blouse, Sharon Barton's "pretty in pink" Victorian lace-collared blouse, Kathy Parker's breathtaking Barrier-blue sweater and beads, Sue Dingess' festive Matador-red dress, Donna Landis' fetching Verdoro-green and black sweater, Karen Motter's stunning Regimental-red dress, and Lynn Inskeep's avant-garde Fontaine-blue jumpsuit adorned with a scarf that doubled as a kung-fu headband later in the evening. The GTOACO guys were no slouches in the fashion department either at the start of the party, but for some reason, their apparel became rather frayed and spotted as the evening wore on.

After the meal, Nick Anspach called to order a short meeting for the purpose of announcing the new officers and board members. After this, Andy "Jaws" Syrkin requested the floor at which time he announced that he had purchased special awards for all attending owners of 1968 and newer GTO's: bananas! Overcome with emotion by the symbolic significance of the moment, several recipients immediately peeled and munched down their trophies, proving once again that you are what you eat.

Continuing his presentations, Andy waxed eloquent as he bestowed imaginary plaques to various members. To Nick went the "Nick Anspach Wrench Award" for his outstanding mechanical genius, to Neal Blankenship went the "Red Is the Proper Color Award" for his car's uncanny ability to always win over blue cars, and to Donna Landis, for some unclear reason, went the "Good Sportsmanship Award."

After this impromptu awards presentation, we enthusiastically adjourned to the hospitality suite where we began to do some serious partying. Lynn Inskeep had organized a door prize drawing. Perhaps the most coveted prize was Neal Blankenship's "GTO Parking Only" sign that Nancy Whaley promptly claimed. Other prizes included a box of cheeses, a bowl of edible nuts, a bottle of bleach-white, a tire gauge, an oil filter wrench, a pump-thermos, and two sets of Christmas place mats. After the drawing, Jeff Inskeep set himself up as bartender concocting fuzzy "nasals" and shots of Jack Daniels and Worchestershire sauce, among other drinks, for anyone who wanted them.

Towards 10:30-11:00 p.m., the party began to break up as several people headed home, including Richard and Nancy Whaley who left with a free 1987 GTOACO membership for sponsoring the most new members this year, the coveted "GTO Parking Only" sign, as well as their much-treasured banana. These departures left the "hard-core" partiers to their own devices. It was at this time that Jeff Inskeep decided to organize the entertainment by initiating the long-awaited tomato-throwing contest. It was also at this time that Neal and Nick decided that Jeff needed a cold shower to chill him out, and they made a valiant attempt to toss him into the shower-stall — an attempt that left the perpetrators wetter than the victim. Sally Anspach, who was unable to attend the party early in the evening because of a previous engagement, arrived just in time to clean up the tomatos, empty beer cans, and inert bodies from the floor of what was to become her bedroom.

The party was quite entertaining for everyone, and our club reached a new high or low, depending upon your point of view, in innovative party antics. The "party animal" award, however, unquestionably belonged to "Carry" Parker, who gave new meaning to the concept of wasted as he traded his GTO for the driver's seat of the wrenching porcelain bus. He also illustrated how he got his name as Neal, Nick, and Jeff "escorted" him out to his car where they poured him into the back seat so Kathy could take him home.

All in all, from bananas to zombies, this was one Christmas party that won't soon be forgotten.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The GTOACO kicked off its first meeting of the new year by doing something really different: presiding over the January 14th meeting was a woman -- our newly elected Vice President Donna Landis. The women members present (Nancy, Renee, and Candace Whaley, Lynn Inskeep, Cassie Collie, and myself) were elated at witnessing such an historic event! Providing back-up secretarial assistance at this meeting was Candace Whaley, who took her very own set of notes, which she keeps in a folder dedicated to GTOACO business.

The first item of Old Business that Donna discussed was

New Jackets. Modeling the new-wave jackets at this meeting were Jeff Inskeep and Rob Wilson. Rob reported that Penny Pockets, the jacket vendor, is willing to enlarge our logo on the back, put our names on the pockets, and place our logo on the front as well. The jackets are available in black, red, or white with snaps or zippers. Rob said that if we ordered six at a time the cost would be \$49 per jacket. Four are tentatively ordered. Penny Pockets can also produce hats with our logo embroidered on them for \$7 per hat.

Spring Show/Swap Meet. Serving as Spring Show chairman, Rob Wilson was still investigating whether we would be able to have our show at Dave Gill Pontiac. They seemed interested and indicated that they would be willing to pay for 50% of the cost of the trophies and all of the advertising. Plans were still on for having the show on May 2nd or 3rd. The Saturday date was more convenient for the Pontiac dealer, and we are flexible. Rob and Donna were going to talk to representatives of Dave Gill after the meeting that night to confirm the plans.

Membership Drive. Jeff Inskeep reported that he had devised a new membership form, which he later passed out to all of us. We were requested to fill out the form and return it with our 1987 dues of \$15. Jeff reiterated that we would continue our policy of sponsoring a free membership to the member who brought in the most new members during the year. Last year's winner, Richard Whaley, was off to a good start this year as he introduced a new member Jim Evans, who joined that night. Jim has a 1965 GTO.

Nationals. Neal Blankenship, our National Meet chairman again for 1987, reported that there will be an article appearing in the February Legend that will ask for volunteer judges. The article requests that volunteers contact. Andy Syrkin or Jack Brandl, a member of the St. Louis Gateway GTO chapter, who are serving as Judging Co-Chairmen for this year's show. Jeff Inskeep discussed the new design for the registration form, which will also appear in the February issue of The Legend. The fee to participate in the Nationals this year will be \$20 per car. Vendors will also be required to pay a \$20 registration fee and \$10 for each vendor space. The fee for Drag Day will be \$10 to get into National Trail Raceway, and the cookout fee will be the same as it was last year -- \$7 per person.

There will be a new Rally Class offered at this year's Nationals designed especially as a competition for those people who have "daily drivers" or slightly modified cars. Jeff Inskeep will be writing an article for the March issue of The Legend explaining this class. The fee for the Rally Class will be

\$13 -- this covers the \$3 per car cost of renting timing equipment necessary for conducting the rally and the \$10 entry fee to the drag strip. Members of the Central Ohio Rally Club (CORC), a local Ohio affiliate of the Sports Car Club of America that specializes in such events, will be running this class.

Jeff Ruffer, who is in charge of organizing the parking lot for the Nationals, had drawn up a large map of all the various judging areas, including the vendor spaces. Jeff will be sending a copy of this map to Bob Maher so he can begin to register vendors who call him. The GTOAA will be accepting vendors on a first-come-first-serve basis. When all of the spaces are taken, no more vendors will be permitted to participate.

Our esteemed editor will include a volunteer form in the next issue of the $\frac{Paw\ Prints}{can\ sign\ up}$ for the activity of their choice.

Moving on to the topic of New Business, Donna asked Jeff Inskeep to report on the

Shake-Down Rally Cruise. The Ohio State Sports Car Club is sponsoring a rally for "driver" or slightly modified cars on Sunday, 18 January from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. This is a good opportunity for GTOACO people to participate in a rally to get an idea of how they are run. Jeff Inskeep and Neal Blankenship will be participating by driving Neal's green Oldsmobile Cutlass — the "Pea-Mobile" racing team — to gain some experience with rally classes. Anyone else interested in participating is welcome at \$10 per car.

1988 Calendar of Events. Jeff Inskeep is entertaining the idea of putting together a calendar for next year listing all of our club events, such as the various shows that we traditionally attend during the year. This would help members keep track of these activities, plus it would be a money-making project for the club.

Tech Sessions. Various members mentioned that they'd like to see the club sponsor tech sessions since these events draw members' interest more than the monthly meetings. It was suggested that we have a Tech Session in Jeff Ruffer's spacious garage and the subject would be restoration of rear ends. Perhaps Nick Anspach could be persuaded to offer his 1969 convertible as the "project car" as it is widely known that Nick's rear end needs a lot of work!

 $\frac{50-50\ \text{Drawing}}{\text{practice}}$. The GTOACO officers mentioned that we should reinstitute this practice with the winner receiving, perhaps, a free meal the night of the meeting. Members were asked to think about this for next meeting.

Location of Next Meeting. We discussed whether we wanted to find another place to meet. While Donato's East is convenient to many of our East-side members, not all of them consistently attend the meetings. Several of our West-side members, especially the Dublin-London-Upper Arlington contingent, would like to see the meeting site moved to the West side for a while. Donna was going to look into it. Andy suggested that we pick a place that requires white dinner ties and has valet parking to add a touch of class to our meetings.

With no more topics of new business to discuss, we adjourned until Wednesday, February 11.

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