

LETTERFROM THE D TOR

hile there might not be a guidebook, there are folks right under our noses with a wealth of practical knowledge and decades of hands-on experience who can point us in the right direction, expand our knowledge base, and help us discover more about the Pontiac GTO than even you probably thought was possible.

Living in a world where many parts can be found and purchased with a simple click of the mouse button, it can be extremely easy to get caught up in the mass marketing world of the big box store. Available 24/7 and seemingly willing to take any form of payment except cash they personify the - I need it now or I needed it yesterday consumer mentality. And that convenience comes with a price because all too often we realize that the knowledgeable service and experience that we took for granted decades ago is rapidly becoming a rare part of today's consumer equation...or is it?

Rest assured that if you learn to look beyond the big box offerings and head off the beaten path that almost every city and town has their secret places, or hidden gems as I like to call them. Secret nooks where a wealth of wisdom is just waiting to be shared. So, join me as we head off the highway and explore a little family tradition with a couple of GTOACO kids. Our travels will take us about 25 miles southwest of the capital city to State Route 56 just outside of the Madison County Seat and from there we are headed southeast to a small village where our second gem has been tucked inside the southwest corner of Fairfield County for over four decades!

(See the story on page 14)

On the Front Cover:

Adam Sigg's son, Jonathan behind the wheel of Grandpa Bill's '67 GTO Hardtop

Photo Credit | Bill Sigg

Contributors:

Brad Blackburn Ron Cozzo Dan Gregory Jr. Jeff Frazier Kevin Landis Ron Landis Steve Schaeffer Bill Sigg Rob Wilson

GTO Association of Central Ohio

3866 Riverview Drive Columbus, Ohio 43221 937-478-0476 Karen

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Ladies and Gentlemen, let's get ready to mark up those Calendars, the season has begun!

21 ALL PONTIAC SWAP MEET

On behalf of the entire GTOACO, we would like to thank you for supporting our event.

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By Brad Blackburn

n some ways it seems hard to believe that it has been a little over one year since we "snuck" in our 2020 swap meet just a few days ahead of the WHO declaring COVID-19 a global pandemic. With that declaration all our lives and normal day to day activities were about to take some major detours. I don't think many of us had any idea of the duration or impact the pandemic would have. In fact, I remember talking a year ago about how in a few months, when the warmer weather sets in, this thing will just go away...well I guess that didn't happen!

Here we are a year later and as I am writing this the clock has just "sprung forward" and we have completed this year's swap meet. As usual, Rob Wilson has done another great job planning and organizing this year's event. We had a good turn out by members for our Saturday night set up which allowed us to get in, set up, and get out guickly. Thanks again to member Scott Stalnaker who showed up bearing hot Donatos pizza which as usual was the hit of the evening. On Sunday, the vendors were lined up early to get in and set up. Our food vendor, Dan's Deli, was on time and had HOT COFFEE not to mention some darn good food (in case you had not heard, last year's food vendor not only showed up late, but did not have coffee, needless to say they were not invited back this year)! All in all, despite the pandemic, the event was another success. We watched lots of happy customers walk out the door carrying new goodies for their projects and all the vendors I talked with were incredibly pleased with their days sales. A BIG thanks to all our club members that showed up to help out with this year's event!

As a reminder to the email that was sent regarding our April meeting, we are diverting from our norm. We will not be holding a meeting on Wednesday April 14th, but instead we are meeting on Saturday April 17th at Lonnie and Lynne McLaughlin's home. Please join us for some good food, a chance to gather and have our April meeting in person!

We are working on some options for a late spring cruise which we hope with more and more vaccines going into arms, that we can pull off. Stay tuned for more details to follow.

Just a quick gentle reminder to please send your 2021 dues to Lonnie McLaughlin if you have not yet paid...better yet bring them to the April meeting!

Thanks,

The GTOACO was founded in 1984 by a group of GTO Enthusiasts in the Central OH Region. The club name was slated to be the Goat Owners of Columbus but by popular vote at our first meeting we became known as The GTO Association of Central Ohio. Becoming a chapter of the GTO Association of America in 1985, we were incredibly young and determined, hosting our first national show in 1986.

We continue to host and participate in a variety of national, regional, and local events celebrating a kind of camaraderie not easily found. We are car historians, passionately preserving, protecting, and restoring the Pontiac GTO so that future generations will never lose sight of the era that defined the raw power of the American Muscle Car!

TIGERBITES Noteworthy New Bites

The April meeting will be held at Lonnie and Lynne McLaughlin's home, please join us at 5:00 pm on Saturday evening, April 17th. Dinner will start at 5:30 pm followed by the April meeting at 7:00 pm. Please RSVP to Lonnie by April 9th.

You can cash in on a Free GTOAA Members Only T-Shirt with a paid membership (limited time—new memberships only). Already a member? Help us update our membership roster by emailing your GTOAA Membership ID# and Expiration Date to the editor at kwilson.1@att.net.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors, we wish nothing but the best to all of our members who are celebrating April birthdays and anniversaries. We are truly honored to have all of you as part of our car club family.



MARCH 10.2021 MEETINGMINUTES

The Online Meeting was called to order by President Brad Blackburn.

In Attendance were Members: Brad Blackburn, Lonnie McLaughlin, Rob Wilson, Karen Wilson, Ron Cozzo, Brent Barnham, Max Treier, Stephen Corvi, Stan Farlow, Jeff Frazier, Jeff Inskeep, Jon Leffler, and Bill Sigg.

Treasurer's Report – Lonnie McLaughlin provided the treasurer's report. He also said that he is prepared for the swap meet and will be bringing the cash boxes Sunday morning to make change.

Swap Meet Sunday March 14th – Rob reported that he has had at least 15 to 20 phone calls asking if we are still having the swap meet and nearly as many emails. With this amount of interest, it appears that we will have a great turnout. We currently have all volunteer spots filled for Sunday. Our food vendor is ready and will be there around 7:30 am to serve.

Set-up and Work Schedule – Rob will be sending the volunteer list for set up on Saturday the 13th. Scott Stalnaker has volunteered to pick up Donatos Pizza again this year for those that help out on Saturday evening. Please plan to arrive by 6:30 pm so we can get the buildings laid out quickly.

Battle of the Brands – Brad reported that Kroger is wanting us back for our show in Sunbury and Brian is checking with two sponsors. Jeff Inskeep has printed flyers for us to distribute and we will have them available at the swap meet.

Spring Cruise – Brad contacted the Champaign Aviation Museum in Urbana to see if they are open to us coming for another tour to see the progress on the restoration of the B-17. They said that they would be happy to have us back. Cost is \$5 each and the restaurant will also be open to serve us. Watch for additional information as we determine the dates.

The Wilds – Jeff Inskeep will check with Tracy at the Zoo to see when we can come for a tour and will report back with additional information.

Annual Dues – Lonnie reported that approximately 32 members are still outstanding in payment of their 2021 dues.

Open Discussion – Brad asked where we would like to hold our next meeting. Lonnie mentioned we could have it at he and Lynne's home. Rob Wilson suggested that we hold our annual holiday meeting at that time (which was postponed back in February). Lonnie will check

with Lynne to see what date works for them and we will announce the time and date in the April edition of the Paw Prints.





Meeting Minutes Submitted By:

Rob Wilson

GTOACO Secretary 614-519-1019 ro.wilson@att.net



CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE PUBLIC FACEBOOK GROUP FOR TAKE BACK THE STRIP

APRIL 17.2021 MEETINGAGENDA

- Establish Quorum
- Call to Order
- Treasurer's Report Lonnie McLaughlin
- Swap Meet 2021 Final Report
 - 2022 Dates
- Battle of the Brands
- Spring Cruise
- All Pontiac Show
- Open Discussion
- Next Meeting May 12 (at the Hickory House hopefully! TBD)
- Motion for Adjournment

MEMBER DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 15 • 2021

\$20.00/Year for Members in the USA(Color PDF Electronic Copy Paw Prints Newsletter)\$30.00/Year for Members in the USA(Postal Mailed B/W Print Copy Paw Prints Newsletter)

Make Check / Money Order Payable to: THE GTO ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OHIO

Mail to Treasurer:

Lonnie McLaughlin 5808 Tarton Circle North Dublin, OH 43017

If you have recently changed your email or postal address, updating your information is easy. Simply message us on **Facebook** or communicate your updates to the club president, Brad Blackburn, via telephone at 937-478-0476 or email at **bradblackburn@dsa-rep.com.**





	Date		
Street			
City		State Zip Co	ode
Home Tel:	Business Tel:	Cell Tel:	
Occupation	En	nail Address	
Membership Dues: □\$20.00/Year for Members in the USA (Color PDF Electronic Copy Paw Prints Newsletter) □\$30.00/Year for Members in the USA (Postal Mailed B/W Print Copy Paw Prints Newsletter)		Make Check / Money Order THE GTO ASSOCIATION OF	
		Mail To Treasurer: Lonnie McLaughlin 5808 Tarton Circle North Dublin, OH 43017	
Please provide your	GTO Association of America Me	mbership ID# and Expiration D	ate
Membership ID#	Ex	cpiration Date	
We encourage all GTO	ACO Members to apply for members	robin to the Notional CTO Accordat	ion of America The
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Thanks for Joining Us! Every Tiger has a Tale, so sit back a few minutes and let's get better acquainted. Please share a short story about yourself, your family, your occupation, or any hobbies you enjoy. Tell us how you became interested in the Pontiac GTO. Include any photographs of your GTO that you would like to share with fellow members. If your story is selected to publish in an upcoming edition of the GTOACO Paw Prints Newsletter, we'll send you a free club t-shirt!

REAR-19 CONFISION

By Steve Schaeffer





When purchasing parts to assemble the original rear ends in both my '64 and '66 GTO I was amazed at how confused the parts vendors were. Other than the specialty vendors, they really didn't seem to know which GM rear end was under the car.

All of the '64 to '72 GTO's came from the factory with the 10-bolt, 8.2" B.O.P. rear end with one exception. The '70 to '72 cars with a 455 engine came with the 12-bolt, 8.875", "C" type rear end. The '73 GTO came with a much stronger 8.5", 10-bolt corporate rear end. Although it uses coil springs like the '64 to '72 cars, it will not bolt under the earlier cars.

With three different rear ends under the GTO, it is no wonder the parts counter man doesn't know what parts to supply you with. Be incredibly careful purchasing parts. The catalogs from the mail order vendors can be confusing and do not go into enough detail to really help you. There are three different 8.2" 10-bolt rear ends in the GM inventory and parts do not interchange.

The 8.2" early 10-bolt rear end was used in the '55 to '64 full size Chevrolet and the '55 to '62 Corvette. It has a removable third member like a 9" Ford. It uses a 1.438" diameter 17-spline pinion gear. This rear end was never used in a GTO.

The 8.2" 25-spline pinion rear end was used in '64 to '72 Chevelle's and other Chevrolet products. This rear end can be identified by the fact that the axles are held

in with "C" clips. The axle bearings are pressed into the housing rather than being pressed on the axle shaft. This rear end too, was never used in a GTO.

The correct 8.2" rear end used in the '64 to '72 GTO is the B.O.P. 10-bolt. The pinion gear is 1.438" in diameter and has 27 splines. This rear end has factory safety hubs holding the axles in, no "C" clips. The rear axle bearings are pressed onto the axle, not pressed into the housing. The rear cover has two halfmoon cut outs to aid in the identification.

The B.O.P. rear end had many running changes in its production life.

- 1. The '66 and newer rear ends are one inch wider than the '64 and '65 rear ends, so they take different axles.
- 2. The '64 and '65 stock carriers take a smaller pin for the spider gears than the '66 and newer ones.
- 3. The driveshaft yoke is smaller in diameter on the '64 and '65 rear ends than the '66 and up and use a different pinion seal.
- 4. The '64 to early '69 carriers and ring gears use 3/8" right hand thread bolts. Sixty-nine and a half through '72 ring gears and carriers use 7/16" left hand thread bolts.
- 5. Two point five six through 3.23 rear end carriers do not interchange with 3.55 to 4.33 carriers unless you use a ring gear spacer plate. Not recommended for heavy duty use.

The 8.2" B.O.P. rear end holds up well with street tires. With cheater slicks or racing slicks you will break it. Ask how I know. Hope this clears up some confusion.









TOO EARLY TO TALK TO YOUR GRANDKIDS ABOUT GTO'S



SEE A GROUP OF KIDS DRIVING AN IMPORT USE THE MOMENT TO TALK ABOUT THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS SUCH AN ACTION MAY HAVE



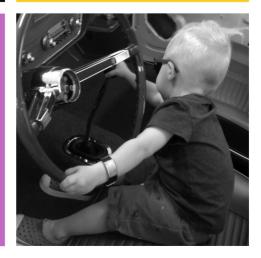
A CLEAR
NO NONSENSE
FAMILY POSITION
ON WHY WE DRIVE
AMERICAN
MUSCLE



IN THIS FAMILY ARE
NOT ALLOWED
TO DRIVE A PRIUS
MAKE THEM AWARE
THAT WE MADE THIS RULE
BECAUSE WE
LOVE THEM
VERY MUCH



TALKING
WITH GRANDKIDS
ABOUT TOUGH ISSUES
IS NOT EASY
MAKE SURE THEY UNDERSTAND
THAT WE HAVE LITTLE
TOLERANCE
FOR LESS THAN
8 CYLINDERS



APRIL • CALENDAR



Easter SundaySunday, April 4

Sunday, April 4 12:00 am-12:00 pm

Whether your attending sunrise services, dyeing eggs with the kids or having an Easter egg hunt, we wish you and your family our warmest blessings this Easter Sunday. Looking for something to do Easter weekend? Check out **Columbus on the Cheap** for Easter events happening in your neighborhood.

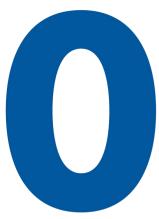


40th Annual Spring Warm Up and Swap Meet

Saturday, April 10 8:00 am-7:00 pm

Come out and shake off the rust at Summit Motorsports Park in Norwalk, OH. Anything can test, from a daily driver to a top fuel dragster. Visit **Summit Motor Sports** for event and ticket information. Let's go Drag Racing!







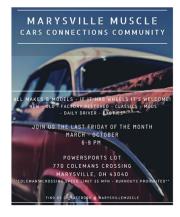




Dinner and a Meeting

Saturday, April 17 Dinner 5:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Join us starting at 5:00 pm at Lonnie & Lynne McLaughlin's home located at 5808 Tarton Circle North in Dublin for dinner and a meeting. Dinner will be catered by Schmidt's. Pop and water will be provided. Please RSVP by April 9th to Lonnie at **londart@aol.com**.



Marysville Muscle

Last Friday of Every Month 6:00 pm-9:00 pm

All makes and models welcome! Join us the last Friday of every month, March through October at the Powersports Lot located at 770 Colemans Crossing in Marysville, OH. Be sure to check out the **Marysville Muscle** public group for more information.



Family Tradition with Ron Landis

he car hobby of today is predicated upon romance...pure and simple. Folks want to relive their youth. In order to maintain interest new life blood must be pumped into it. Otherwise...we find ourselves going exactly the way of the Model-T clubs! Fortunately, when the GTOACO came into fruition, the driving forces in the club were family-oriented and in fact, much like Donna and I, they already had little ones that they were immersing into their love of the hobby.

It didn't take long for our little chapter to take up a leadership role in 1986 at the National level within the GTO Association of America, hosting not just our first, but several of the most successful National Events on record including back-to-back presentations. Ever-present among the organized chaos were a couple of kids, my son Kevin and little Danny Gregory. His Dad "Krazy Dan" was THE MAN if you needed any Pontiac parts or information. There were a whole host of members that exhibited so much devotion and dedication such as Joe Block and his late wife, Debby. Both of them, a true cornerstone of our community who seemingly single-handedly spawned the "Southeast Ohio Branch" of the GTOA-CO. Legendary in their influence and par-(Continued on page 16)

famil







- Full Restorations
- Engine Bay Detailing
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- Paint Correction
- Wheel & Tire Mount/Balance
- Interior Restorations
- Private Purchase Inspections
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ticipation in each and every club activity along with their wonderful offspring that we basically became more of a family than what most folks would have considered was just a club. In fact, Kevin still refers to several of those initial members as "uncle" or by some other term of endearment.

Naturally, this environment led to a kinship that still drives the organization to this day spawning a devout dedication to the hobby that continues to show promise from year to year. Kevin has far outshined his dear old dad and now owns and operates Ohio Muscle Car which specializes in, you guessed it, the GTO! As with many business owners, he is heavily reliant on his suppliers with one of his most prevalent being DJ GTO Parts. Yep, Dan Jr. has not only continued the legacy that his father started nearly 40 years ago but has expanded on it exponentially. To my knowledge, his is the only outfit around that can supply the hobbyist with not only brand-new parts offerings but rare and quality used items from a vast inventory which is nothing to sneeze at nowadays with the scarceness of certain NOS parts.

That brings us to the present. You all can rest easy if you are taking on a project concerning a Pontiac as the new wave of enthusiasts are here and ready to guide you. Life seems much easier these days in the restoration world primarily because of folks like these two GTOACO kids who grew up in the hobby absorbing every ounce of Pontiac knowledge at such an incredibly young age. Their positive impact and passion to preserve the GTO is palpable not only here in central Ohio but across the country. With each restoration a family tradition lives on...and with any luck those traditions will continue to resonate far into the next generation as we, a family of Pontiac enthusiasts continue to share our stories with not only our children but our grandchildren as well. I know Kevin is doing his part, his six-year-old son Scott is already seeing his '64 Marimba Parchment Tri-Power four speed coming together!

-Ron Landis

Read on to get to know a little more Family Tradition as we republish an updated version of a Paw Prints member profile of Dan Gregory Sr. that was originally submitted in 1996 by Carol Guthrie.

Dan Sr. had always been interested in cars, his first Pontiac was a true classic, a '59 Bonneville

Convertible that he purchased in 1967 after his return from Vietnam. It was a 389 Tri-Power and bright red, the original Wide Track! For Dan there was nothing like the wind in your hair and the strength of a Tri-Power 389! Dan was really hooked on Pontiacs after the enjoyment this purchase brought him,

Taking time to raise a family, daughter Julie and son Danny Jr., Dan's love for cars was again rekindled in the early 1980's with the start of his business DJ GTO Parts which he named after his children, Danny and Julie.

Visiting DJ GTO Parts is a real experience. Located right in the center of Historic Downtown Stoutsville, the garage, body shop, and warehouse are in a vintage auto repair facility. The used car lot (GTO's and Pontiacs only!) is located next door where the old hotel formerly stood. In the rear is a GTO Auto Recycling Center. The warehouse is crammed with row after row of GTO parts, engine blocks, cylinder heads, intake manifolds, carbs, and the like. If Pontiac made it, Dan had it or knew where to find it!

In his unceasing search for cars and those elusive rust-free parts, Dan Sr. had traveled as far as Texas and California to find them. His unique love for cars even showed in his interior decorating when a 455 HO Pontiac Blower Engine (yes, on its stand) graced his living room for years, it was just too pretty to put in a car! Some people polish their silverware, but Dan Sr. polished his blower and dual quads!

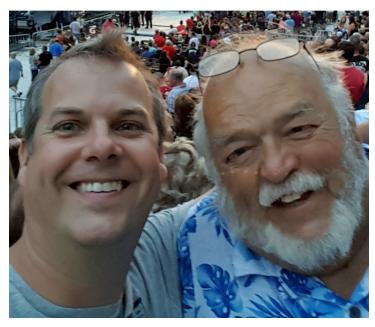
Krazy Dan was a walking encyclopedia of GTO knowledge as is his son Dan Jr. If you are currently restoring or thinking about restoring a GTO a trip to Stoutsville just might be in order for you. Tucked in the southwest corner of Fairfield County at 11283 Main Street it's worth the visit. You won't be disappointed!

So, when it comes to hidden gems in Central Ohio, don't forget to steer clear of the big box and instead head off the highway and immerse yourself in a little family tradition as you get to know these couple of GTOACO kids by exploring Ohio Muscle Car and DJ GTO Parts.

-Karen Wilson GTOACO Editor









M

Rain or Shine All

Brian D'Amico: 614-935-5107 - burgboy73@gmail.com

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PLEASE!

Disclosure: GTOACO, BW Grill, Jet's Pizza and Kroger are not responsible or ANY Damage or injury

All Cars Welcome



Prevent

Blindness



MARK UP THOSE CALENDARS!



Hillbilly Nationals Demolition Drag Race

National Trail Raceway | 2650 National Road SW | Hebron, OH Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 5 pm-10:30 pm

On Saturday Night, May 8 the first ever Demolition Drag Race will be held at National Trail Raceway. The idea comes from Cleetus McFarland's Cleetus and Cars and we hope to grow demolition drag racing. That night fans will be see something never been done before at National Trail Raceway. The rules are simple, the two vehicles must hit at least once after the 60ft mark and before the 1/8th mile to be a valid race. But that doesn't mean they can't hit more than once! Fans will get see who is left standing at the end of the night after all the carnage. Click here to Purchase Tickets.



Phil Dirt and the Dozers in Concert

McConnelsville Summer Concert | 15 West Main Street | McConnelsville, OH Saturday, July 3, 2021 at 8:00 pm

Remember when life was simpler, the world was smaller and the cost of a new Pontiac was less than \$3,000.00? It was a time when cool cars cruised the local teenage haunts and the radio was always rockin' the latest tunes. If you're ready to experience the good old days of Rock 'n Roll, lace up your saddle shoes, hang the fuzzy dice from the rear-view mirror, and check out **PHIL DIRT & THE DOZERS** show schedule.

Ongoing COVID-19 regulations may require event cancellations...be sure to call before you go!



SEND US YOUR ADS* FOR MAY BY APRIL 16, 2021 EMAIL THE EDITOR AT: kwilson.1@att.net



Muncie 4 speed transmissions rebuilt for \$275.00 labor, parts extra. The basic rebuild kit consists of front and rear bearings, all needle bearings, gaskets, snaprings, seals, synchro rings, front input retainer nut, synchro keys and springs. Also includes new counter shaft. My cost on the overhaul parts kit is \$126.00 plus shipping. Additional parts, if needed, are at additional cost.

Contact: Steve Schaeffer | Retired A.S.E. Certified Mechanic Phone: 740-215-0126 Email: superschaef421@att.net

323 Posi Rear End - \$1200.00. Brand new gears and axles built by Sonic Motors. (Compare to Chevy 12 bolt at \$2600) This is not a used rear end. Best cruising gear to keep your 389 cool. Will deliver to any GTOACO member.

Contact: Greg Nobis

Phone: 740-815-4748 Email: jgregnobis@gmail.com

DJ GTO Parts is your one stop shop for used and NEW GTO parts located in Central Ohio. GTO-ACO members receive a discount!

Contact: Dan Gregory Jr. | Owner

Phone: 614-563-0877 Email: djgtoparts@gmail.com

Ohio Muscle Car was founded on the idea to treat each project with the highest level of detail and integrity. Whether it is a freshening up of an engine bay or a complete restoration, we pride ourselves on creating a product that each customer can be proud of.

Contact: Kevin Landis | Owner

Phone: 740-361-1116 Email: ohiomusclecar@gmail.com

ADS* MUST BE FOR CAR PARTS AND THE LIKE, ABSOLUTELY NO HOUSEHOLD OR PERSONAL ITEMS.





tireless help.



























On behalf of the entire GTOACO, we would like to thank you for attending our event. We realize that everyone has busy lives, so for you to have taken time out of your Sunday to support our club was truly appreciated. We were very grateful for your participation in this years show. As always, our best to you and your family.



If you or someone you know purchased a model car kit during the swap meet for a blue Pontiac Grand Am, one fairly important part of the kit was left behind on the vendor's table. Arrangements to receive the missing piece can be made by contacting Ed either by phone at (937)-935-9663 or by email at epcparmer@yahoo.com.





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