

Pottstown Region AACA

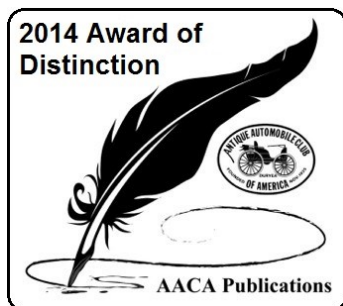
Barbara Plant Editor

207 Lexington Road

Schwenksville PA 19473



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The Newsletter of the Pottstown Region AACA

January, February, March 2024



AACA's LIVE WIRE REGION
ESTABLISHED IN 1952

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all! We are looking forward to Spring-time and all the interesting car events coming up. Hope you can attend them all. We have added several new members to the Pottstown Region AACA. Welcome aboardCarol Johnson, Gary Faircloth, Nancy and James Krombach, Tim and Karen Britton and Keith and Barbara Hunsberger.

After discussion of the following items at our February club meeting and Board Meeting we voted to continue to hold our regular club meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at P.C. Como at 6 pm dinner and 7 pm for our meeting. Also, we voted to continue our "no dues policy" for 2024.

At the meeting, Tom Wright presented an interesting list of activities and events for our 2024 Club Calendar. Watch for more details on specific events and club activities.

Additionally, Tom Wright and the Duryea Day Committee have started preparing for the Duryea Day Show on August 31, 2024. This is our biggest fund-raising event and needs everyone's help. Please volunteer! Plus, if you volunteer to help on the set up or the day-of-show activities you will earn a free dinner at the club Christmas party.

And speaking of the Christmas Party.....save the date for December 1, 2024, at 5 pm for our party at the Brookside Country Club. It's a great event ... delicious buffet with a beautiful setting. More details to follow.

Officers 2024

President Robert H. Dare 610-948-9350 bdarecars@aol.com
 Vice President Cliff Wilson 610-948-5922 wilsondad2@msn.com
 Secretary Pat Strunk 610-367-8252 P1125b@gmail.com
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2024 Commitees

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 Sunshine Sandy Kemp 610-367-6664 sandrakemp5480@gmail.com
 Audit John McCarthy 610-689-0713 packardmotors@aol.com

SUNSHINE CLUB –Sandy Kemp

Nothing to report

Club Birthdays

Jan-1	Hallman, Lynne C.
Jan-6	Poley, Patricia
Jan-11	Spiece, Kim
Jan-21	Fryer, Irene
Jan-21	Reinford, Darlene
Jan-21	Sable, Paul

Feb-13	Engard, Peggy
Feb-16	Plant, Barbara
Feb-20	Scherzer, Alfred
Feb-27	Yannessa, Mike

Mar-3	Spaar, Thomas
Mar-7	Strunk, Robert L.
Mar-11	Fryer, Charles E.
Mar-11	Stever, Brian
Mar-16	Fiorillo, Donald
Mar-16	Lachman, Leslie C
Mar-16	Stever, Matthew
Mar-24	Guigley, Robin

Welcome New Club Members By Barbara Plant

Carol J Johnson, email: cjsquared@comcast.net

Michaela L. Zaborowski, email: michaela@boyertownmuseum.org

Stefen L and Rosalie Phifer, email: stefanphifen@verizon.net

Karen and Tim Britton - britton231@comcast.net

MONTHLY MEETING NOTES

The Monthly Meeting notes are emailed by our Secretary, Pat Strunk. If you do not have email and would like a physical paper copy please leave a message on my cell phone and I will see that you get a copy. Barbara Plant 267-987-7723

SPONSORS

We have lost some of the Newsletter Sponsors due to retirement or not having a Newsletter for a while. Please check with business to see if you can get them to place a business card add for \$25.00 for 2024

EVENTS Club Meetings

**The Club Meetings are 2nd Wednesday of the Month at
Pizza Como in Pennsburg.**

Dinner at 6:00 pm Meeting at 7:00 pm

April 10, 2024

May 8, 2024

June 12, 2024

August– Club Picnic TBA

September 11, 2024

October 9, 2024 (Possible Change to due to Fall Hershey

November 13, 2024

CLUB EVENTS To Be Announced

Pottstown AACA Annual Holiday Dinner**By Cliff Wilson**

Great time at the Brookside CC with about 45 members and guests attending. Introductions were made by President Dare for the outgoing and incoming officers and board members. Piano music was provided by Barbara Mauger and door prizes were given out along with Walmart gift cards with cookie tins. Looking forward to another good year of interesting activities.



Pontiac GTO

By Tom Wright

Hello,

I'm sitting here reflecting on my 10 year plus ownership of a 2005 Pontiac GTO. The story of how we (myself and car) began a relationship is both interesting and a good journey into my personal car history.

I found out, as did many Pontiac fans around 2002, that Pontiac was bringing back the iconic GTO. We all were anxious to hear and to see what, where, when and how this car was going to be built, what it would look like, and when/how the fans of GTO would be able to order or buy this new style GOAT.

I watched for reports and information on this car and finally it was announced that the 2004 model year would be the debut. I was so ready to go down to my local Pontiac dealer only to be reminded by my better half that now is not great time to add another car payment since little less than a year earlier I had purchased a 2004 Bonneville GXP.

(Propably my favorite Pontiac car.)

I really did not put up to much of a fight as I was now hearing rumors of a newly mentioned replacement for the iconic Bonneville with yet another Holden product--the Pontiac G8.

With a paid off 04 GXP, I rushed down to the local Pontiac Dealer in early 2008 to buy a Torrid Red G8 GT with all available options and a dual color red/onyx interior.

As mentioned in an earlier car bio published in our chapter newsletter, I regrettably sold that car in a very short period of time.

So I still did not have a GTO, and after selling my G8 my desire for a Holden only intensified. I needed to satisfy my Pontiac urges so I purchased a really nice 2002 Grand Prix GT 40th Anniversary Edition (not a Holden, but another bucket list car). This is the first car I purchased on Ebay. I had a few purchase issues, but all in all this is now my second favorite Pontiac.

Again this purchase did not wane my desire to own a GTO. After an additional couple of years in and around the year 2013 my need (want) to own a GTO was now my main focus. I started looking at what was available and what prices were being asked.

My previous not so great experience with Ebay was not going to be my first choice for purchasng a new acquisition.

I really honed in on a person or dealer more locally. Local to me was within 200 miles from my Philadelphia home front.

I was really lucky to find a 2005 GTO with rare color code Midnight Blue Metallic about 100 miles away in Tom's River, New Jersey.



Pontiac GTO **By Tom Wright**

Con't Page 2 of Tom's Pontiac

After several calls and emails requesting pictures and as much info the dealer could muster on this car, I decided on a cold rainy northeast day to drive the 100 miles or so to Tom's River, NJ, to visit a small used car dealer. The dealer was very helpful and allowed myself and my wife (she reluctantly came along) to take the car for a nice long test drive.

It was a two owner car with a certified 37,000 plus miles on the clock.

The car was an automatic with no past issues but with some road rash that was acceptable to me for an 8 year old car. All systems were working and it came with the owners manual, window sticker and a pretty thorough maintenance history. I was happy to see it was originally sold by a local Philadelphia dealer and only a short distance from my home Faulkner Pontiac.

The asking price was very reasonable, and after some minor back and forth negotiations, I finally had the GTO I had wanted for almost 10 years since first hearing about the GTO comeback in 2002.

Since owning the car now for a little more than 10 years I have put on an additional 2000 miles or so, purchased some new Goodyear Eagle All-Season tires and a battery, but not much else. I enjoy going to local car shows and hope to bring it to a POCI convention in the near future.

Though it's not my favorite Pontiac, I still consider this GTO one of my best purchases knowing all of things that go into owning a piece of GM history with a Holden Australian made product.

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