

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY



The GTO Tiger Times

The Voice of the GTO and Pontiac Enthusiast in Central Pennsylvania



President's Corner

Hello there SVGTO! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Welcome to 2021!

As I write this, we have not quite made it out of the twilight zone year of 2020, but we are close. Although we are not completely in the clear, I sincerely hope that 2021 is a much brighter year for club events and life in general. As if 2020 wasn't bad enough because of all the virus problems, the Pontiac world has lost another legend. Just after Thanksgiving, Milt Schornack passed away. Milt was a good friend of SVGTO for over a decade, attending many shows over the years with us. Bob and I talked with him a lot leading up to and following our convention in 2018, and those were some lively conversations! Milt was full of ideas and was blown away when we told him that he had whatever space he needed; we were on board to let him run with it. He was always very humble about his role in Pontiac history.



Over the years, former club president Vic Schreck became very close with Milt, so I've asked Vic to provide a proper memorial in this issue.

As we begin 2021, we will once again use January for an officer's meeting to get ourselves on the same page and make an outline for the year. Regular club meetings will begin in February, hopefully as usual in person at our regular spot at the Hillside Café. Time will tell if that will be allowed or not, and we will adjust accordingly if needed. We hope to be busy in 2021 to give everyone a chance to make up for last year!

This message is being written on the day we would normally be preparing a holiday feast for our chosen charity, Ronald McDonald House. Unfortunately, that program is on hold now, so we will have to mail our normal donation and forgo the cooking extravaganza. Speaking of our donation, THANK YOU to all the members who answered the call when Treasurer Bob asked for any personal donations to add to our club funds. It nearly doubled the donation! I know we will all be missing this event; it is a club favorite and always an

uplifting experience that helps put me in the Christmas spirit.

Just in case anyone has not heard, Carlisle GM Nationals is back! 2020 marked SVGTO's return to Carlisle as a club event at what was tagged the Chevrolet Nationals. Name notwithstanding, you would not know this wasn't an all-GM show! Pontiac was well represented, and we hope the trend continues! We will again have a club tent on the Pontiac show field for all club members to visit, hang out, and enjoy. Registration can be done at the Carlisle Events website. Please be sure to list SVGTO as your club affiliation when you sign up, as this will help us get our club tent free for the following year.

As we begin the new year, it is also time for club membership renewals. SVGTO membership fees are due in January for all members. This is for SVGTO only, if you are also a GTOAA member, your renewal date with them could be different. Your membership renewal date with GTOAA is listed on the address label along with your mailing address your "Legend" magazine each month. They will also send you a reminder well ahead of your due date. It is also the time of year for me to submit our chapter survey to GTOAA. Along with this survey they accept nominations for Chapter of the Year as well as the Tom Foster award. both of these awards are announced at the yearly convention. If you want to make a nomination for either category, I have the necessary forms to submit to them. Please contact me for more information.

I hope everyone stays safe and healthy, and hope to see you all soon!



The GTO Tiger Times, A 2006-19 GTOAA Award winner for Chapter Newsletter Excellence

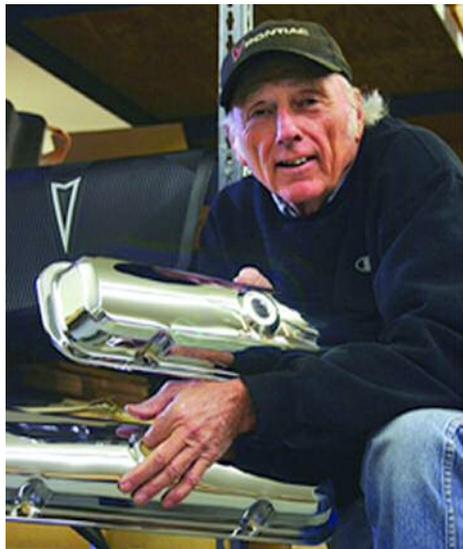




Jan/Feb 2021

Restoration Industry Loses A Pioneer

Still processing the loss of Milt Schornack, barely a week later restoration pioneer Steve Ames also passed away. Steve was the founder of Ames Performance Engineering. He was a leader in the Pontiac restoration industry for decades and was responsible for many restoration parts for Pontiac getting reproduced and to market. He was also a major proponent and sponsor every August at Summit Motorsports Park for the Pontiac Nationals.



SVGTO Loses a Friend

Unfortunately, the bad news was not over for us after hearing about the loss of legends Milt and Steve. Soon after I originally sent off my story for the month to Secretary Russ for this newsletter, I got word that we lost a club member. Tom Kurtz was an SVGTO member even though he did not own a Pontiac. He joined after fellow member and long-time friend Jim Eyer brought him along to help at Mecum few years back, and he has been with us ever since. He holds a distinct honor as the only non-Pontiac to ever grace the pages of our yearly club calendar. He was always fun to have around at Mecum, willing to jump on whatever job needed to be done. Tom will most definitely be missed!



If you have comments about, or suggestions to help improve The GTO Tiger Times, please contact Russ Esenwine.

secretary@svgto.com

Next Meeting:

The next regular club meeting will be held on February 21st at 1PM at the Hillside Cafe.



Remembering Milton Schornack, By Vic Schreck

It's said this hobby is not only about the cars, rather the people behind the cars, the cars are the link that bring people together. If it weren't for the cars, I never would have met Milt Schornack. SVGTO would never have had the relationship with him we had.

I first met Milt at the GTOAA Nationals in Saratoga Springs NY in 2008. I recall standing beside his 1970 Judge Racecar when he fired it up inside the convention center. The whole place shook when he started it. He told me several times over the years how loud that car was, he never heard a car so loud he stated. If ever a car he loved, that '70 Judge was it. Later I'd see Milt at Carlisle Event's annual All GM Nationals. Milt then was attempting to create custom built Bobcats as he had his unfinished '66 Ultimate Bobcat on a carousel advertising it. As President of Susquehanna Valley GTO, I was then getting the club more involved at a national level and it was at GM Carlisle our friendship began. Then in 2009 I sat with him again at the Nutter Center in Ohio at the Co-vention. My wife then met Milt's wife Sharon and their friendship began. Milt was seated with his nearly completed '66 Ultimate Bobcat, the rear seat was not delivered on time and he had a blanket covering a temporary seat to hide the uncompleted portion.

Unbeknownst to me at that time was the beginning of a friendship that would end up going beyond the hobby. For those in the club in 2014 you recall the 50th Anniversary of the GTO. Tyler Staley was then the GM Manager. In the fall of 2013, he contacted me with a plan he had to have an anniversary salute to the GTO. He asked if I could provide him contacts of GTO celebrities he could reach out to. I had a better idea I told him if he was interested. I told Tyler, tell you what; Let's throw the biggest GTO Birthday Bash in the nation. I will make contact with all the VIP's and invite them. Carlisle needs to ink them. Tyler got approval and things got underway. Milt was the first person I contacted. He jumped on board. I then proceeded to line up Jim Wangers, and Arnie Beswick who immediately jumped on board. My conversation with Arnie was funny. He asked if there was a nearby track he could run the Tameless Tiger II on. I told him, you bet. But there's good and bad with it. Like what he asked. Well, the good is you can run it, the bad is it's only a 1/8-mile track, your burnouts are 1/8 mile long, you'd have to race backwards to make it fair. The laughter on the end of that phone went on and on. Be that as it may, sign me up he stated. Jim Wangers was happy to come as well after I contacted him.

I got a call from Milt one evening. Vic, I have an idea. How about I make some calls and see if I can get Russ Gee, Bill Collins, and Ben Harrison to come. Oh, yea do it I said. He called me a few days later. All have agreed and I have another question. The first '64 GTO is in California, Tenney Fairchild now owns it, I can make a call and inquire, what do you think? If you can pull that off, I told him, this party will be one for the ages. In the meantime, I called Tim Dye and Tim agreed to come. We had every GTO celebrity headed to 2014 GM Car-

lisle. Tyler Staley calls me, Vic our budget is maxed out. I didn't think you'd pull it off. SVGTO ended up paying for most of Tim's expenses but the weekend was worth it. A week later Milt calls me back. Tenney is going to ship the car in. I met up with Milt at the 2013 Co-vention in Dayton and we planned. The groundwork was already laid out, we began putting the pieces of the puzzle together. It was then I learned both Arnie, and Jim had to back out as POCI changed their convention to the same week as our event. Many recall how shall I say: 'displeased' I was. Brian had to peel me from the ceiling of the Nutter Center I was that livid. To add insult to injury, POCI tried to get the others to attend their convention, they were already committed to Carlisle.

I then got another call from Tyler informing me they landed the Bandit Run for the weekend. The stars were aligned for SVGTO that year. The event was the 3rd largest GM event ever held. I counted over 100 classic GTOs in the field, was an amazing sight. Club members then recall how special that weekend was. Bill and Russ were reunited with that '64 for the first time since its creation. I recall talking to Bill Collins when we were at the car, I looked at him and said hey Bill, ya know, we could drop a 389 in that car in about 20 minutes. Boy did he laugh. We both did. OK, so what's my point? Milt made this happen. Had he not been involved that event would not have happened the way it did. Following the Saturday event Milt was invited to Rich and Darlene Slarb's home for a private homestyle cookout with club members where he and his buddy Rudy Ruder spent a few hours telling us stories from back in the day. Tim Dye was also in attendance talking all things Pontiac.

In 2015 SVGTO celebrated our 20th Anniversary. We set aside a budget which included the attendance of Milt. Milt eagerly agreed. The day before the show, Milt, along with this wife Sharon rolled into my driveway after a straight drive from his home in Macomb, Michigan. Milt followed me to an area motel where I had arranged his stay. We advertised Milt and again he came though, that year we entertained 194 Pontiacs in the field. Milt attended a private gathering with club members at my and Bob and Cindy Krewson's home. That was a special time.

Milt and I chatted nearly once a week talking racing, to engine building to Bob-cating along with his funny stories he and Sharon had trailering cars all over the country. Many of the stories were hysterical. Occasionally I'd hear his wife in the background telling him to shut the hell up. He'd laugh and continue. In 2018 as many recall, I reached out to Milt for his attendance in Valley Forge. Milt had the idea of putting on a tribute to Motor City Dragway. 2 of his buddies recreated the 2 Tigers that raced there. I worked with Milt setting this up, I was able to get from Paul Spotts, a working Christmas Tree that completed the display. Milt wanted our convention to be one to remember he went the extra mile for us. He had told me several times he enjoyed SVGTO, whatever he needed we provided. I cannot tell you enough how much he appreciated SVGTO.

Our 26th Year!

2021 Club Officers

Brian Little—President

President@svgto.com

Mike Gettys—Vice President

vp@svgto.com

Bob Krewson—Treasurer

treasurer@svgto.com

Russ Esenwine—Secretary

secretary@svgto.com

Alan Haynes—Car Show Coordinator

carshow@svgto.com

Over the past several years Milt and I talked once a week it was more of life and family than cars. A few months before his passing he informed me he was going to write another book; his buddy Rudy was going to author it. He was going to inventory more of his diecasts and market them. Milt also was in the process of working to recertify the Woodward Tigers as a chapter of the GTOAA. He was the driving force to make this happen. I worked with him and his buddy Steve Whittaker going through the necessary steps to do so. I had our Chapter Coordinator travel to Michigan to address the club. Milt was anxious to host a convention in the Detroit area and I was working with him to make this happen. COVID then hit and plans were shelved. Woodward is close to recertification and it'll be sad Milt will not be here to see his dream realized.

Milt called one day and said he fell. He stated he don't know why he just tripped for no reason exiting his bank. He complained of injuring his shoulder, he needed to be placed in a cast. I vividly recall him telling me NO \$^&*#**& WAY AM I GOING IN A CAST. He described a torn rotator cuff. He recalled the DR telling him he will need surgery. He never told me he struck his head. I later learned he fell face first into a curb hard. It was a week or so later he was having a difficult time speaking, he was slurring. His sons took him to the hospital and was discovered he had brain bleed and evidence of old brain bleed. Late October he was rushed into surgery. A cat scan after surgery discovered he had to be rushed

back in. I got a call on Nov 6 telling me he was doing better but having a difficult time speaking. A week later I was informed his health took a turn for the worst and he was fading in and out and not expected to make it. I had not received a call from him in over 14 days which was odd. I had recently talked to him before he passed about the 2021 Convention in Wisconsin, I was setting up for him. I had no idea; he had no idea how seriously ill he was. Talking to his wife shortly after his passing, she told me she was at his bedside and told him to get his butt out of bed, they have places to go and shows to attend, don't be so lazy laying there. He smiled at her she said. Shortly after that day, he slipped into a coma. When his son Michael notified me he had passed, I was numb.

Milt had told me many times, I don't know why people make such a big stink about me, I was just a mechanic, I was a nobody. Many of you know of Milt, and Milt's contribution to Pontiac and performance. Milt was inducted into the Pontiac Hall of Fame in 2019. That nobody was indeed a somebody. My friendship with him began in 2009 in Dayton Ohio with a car, a link that bring people together, a link that brought my friendship together with Milt Schornack.



National Organization Information



Susquehanna Valley GTO is an affiliated chapter of the GTO Association of America, the premier national organization for GTO enthusiasts. Each month GTOAA members receive **The Legend**, a Golden Quill Award winning publication. Members can read the technical articles and have access to the GTOAA Technical Advisors Staff, use 50 words of free advertising monthly, view the feature articles on some of the most interesting GTOs you'll come across, and have access to the GTOAA Club Store merchandise. For an on-line preview of The Legend, go to www.gtoaa.org. For local chapter information, send an e-mail to Bill Vantuono at chapters@gtoaa.org. To receive a membership application by mail, write to: GTOAA, PO Box 213, Timnath, CO. 80547, or send an e-mail to: membership@gtoaa.org for more information.

The GTOAA National Meet is hosted by various local chapters, and is held annually. The acclaimed Concours and Popular Vote Car Shows bring some of the finest GTOs together for superb viewing. Other highlights include many renowned Technical and Special Interest speakers, the multi-day swap meet, drag tracing, and other great events.



1995

2021

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY



PRESENTS:

14th Annual All Pontiac Show 2021 GTOAA EAST COAST REGIONALS



DATE:	August 20 & 21, 2021
TIME:	FRI: Noon-6 SAT: Reg. 8a-11a Show 9a-3p
PLACE:	Amos Herr Park 1670 Nissley RD Landisville, PA 17538
COST:	Pre-reg: 15.00, DOS: 20.00

****Rain or Shine Event****

All Pontiacs welcome: Any Year, Any Model.

- ◆ Popular Vote By Registered Show Participants
- ◆ Best Of Show Awards
- ◆ Longest Distance Award
- ◆ GTOAA Choice Awards
- ◆ Raffles / Door Prizes
- ◆ CATERED BY SCOOPS ICE CREAM & GRILLE
- ◆ Showfield On Grass / Abundant Shade
- ◆ Music By Jeff Primaldi "The 45 Guy"
- ◆ Trailer Parking available



- A: Stock GTO 1964-67
- B: Stock GTO 1968-74
- C: Stock GTO 2004-06
- D: Stock Pontiac thru 1964 except GTO/TA/FB
- E: Stock Pontiac 1965-79 except GTO/TA/FB
- F: Stock Pontiac 1980-99 except GTO/TA/FB
- G: Stock Pontiac 2000-09 except GTO/TA/FB
- H: Stock Trans Am & Firebird 1967-81
- I: Stock Trans Am & Firebird 1982-2002
- J: Modified Pontiac All Years except GTO/TA/FB
- K: Modified Trans Am & Firebird 1967-81
- L: Modified Trans Am & Firebird 1982-2002
- M: Modified GTO 1964-74
- N: Modified GTO 2004-06
- O: G8 - Stock or Modified
- P: Pontiac A-Body 1973-77 including Can Am
- Q: Fiero - Stock or Modified
- R: Under Construction/Driver

** Modified: Up to 3 minor modifications permitted for stock class
Any questions on proper classing please contact:
president@svgto.com

*SVGTO reserves the right to re-class accordingly

SVGTO is a Regional Chapter of the GTO Association of America



2013 Chapter of the Year



Model Car Contest:

- Classes for Adults & Kids
- Pontiac & Open Classes
- Model cars limited to plastic assembly, NO diecast
- Model Car contest is FREE to show registrants
- Registration day of show only

*Special group hotel rates:

Sleep Inn & Suites
310 Primrose Lane
Mountville, PA 17554
(717)285-0444

Questions? Email: svgtoshow@svgto.com
Or Call: 717.778.8102 - 717.521.8277 - 717.880.0607
717.615.7117 - 717.880.5692

Pre Registration is highly recommended
to ensure parking in your class!

Register online: www.svgto.com

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Model Pontiac: _____ Year: _____ Class: (Letter from above) _____

Children Participation: (age limit 15) # of Children _____ Ages: _____

Signature: _____

** I understand; SVGTO, GTOAA, & East Hempfield Twp will not be held liable for any damages, thefts, or injuries to show cars, or participants.



Checks made payable to: Susquehanna Valley G T O
Mail registration with remittance by: August 13th, 2021
To: SVGTO ALL PONTIAC SHOW >>> ATTN: Bob Krewson
950 Driver Avenue, Landisville, PA 17538



Portion of proceeds to benefit: Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central PA