

On the Front Cover:

Jim Lowry | 1965 Red GTO Photo Credit | Lonnie McLaughlin

Contributors:

Brad Blackburn
Kevin Landis
Jim Lowry
Chris and Kate M°Cracken
Lonnie M°Laughlin
Steve Schaeffer
Connie Stevens
Rob Wilson

GTO Association of Central Ohio

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

s we say goodbye to 2021, this issue of the Paw Prints newsletter – our final issue before we ring in the new year will be my last. I've enjoyed hearing your stories and challenging myself this past year with creating content, experimenting with typography (my favorite part of design), and pushing myself to learn new skills. I'm thankful for having had the opportunity for the single creative control, although in retrospect a brilliant design team, a backlog of content, or maybe even an occasional case of Mint Kit Kat bars at the ready would have eased the stress that I continually placed on myself each month. I can't begin to express the depth of my thanks to each one of you who contributed to individual issues throughout the year. I appreciate you all and could not have done it without you. And although there is a part of me that will miss designing the Paw Prints, I feel a greater sense of relief that a simplified version of the newsletter will be placed into the capable hands of the secretary.

As for me, I'm always trying to stay ahead of those horrible little hormones that see fit to attaching themselves to the waistlines (and temperaments) of we middle-aged women which is just one of the reasons why I run. Yes, always outside, and much like the postman I hit the trail or that dreaded pavement rain, sleet, snow, or shine. Well, maybe not actually sleet but I have to say that when I'm out there in the cold and snow, it actually makes me feel at little badass over those indoor treadmill runners in their climatecontrolled gyms. At any rate, I'm now in week 10 of my second training program this year and I am feeling stronger both mentally and physically which makes me realize that even though I'm pushing that big 6-0, I'm probably capable of a whole lot more than I give myself credit for. And who knows, perhaps one of these days I'll inspire one of those dreaded pavement drivers to get their flipping nose out of the smartphone and take up trail running instead...now wouldn't that make road running much safer!

If I were to leave you with any thoughts, here are some to ponder...love your family and give back for all the blessings that you have received. Don't ever be that

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Mark your calendars for the Holiday Party this February.

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By Brad Blackburn

As we near the end of 2021 and our club family activities take a break to allow for our personal family activities to increase through the holidays, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a blessed holiday season. While our lives over the past 20 months have changed in many ways, I hope everyone can take time to relax, enjoy our families, and count our blessings as we look forward to 2022!

Reflecting on our club activities for 2021, we had a really good year...we got to improve our skills with on-line meetings early in the year since in person meetings were still a no-no. We had a strong turnout for our swap meet in March, masks, hand sanitizer, shields, and all! A fun spring cruise to Urbana in May with some great pie involved, a record-breaking Battle of the Brands car show in July, September had a fantastic club picnic and the 37th Annual Indian Uprising car show. Throw in our special April and October monthly meetings graciously hosted by Lonnie and Lynne McLaughlin and you have a great year for the GTOACO and our sponsored charities despite the pandemic!

Congratulations to Rob Wilson, who was added to our 2021 list of Emeritus members at our November meeting, an honor well deserved as Rob is a charter member of this club and has served in many capacities over the years. Thanks Rob for being such a loyal member and for all your service to the club!

While 2022 is already looking like another strong year for the club with our Annual Holiday Party back and scheduled for February 26th and our All-Pontiac Swap Meet set for Sunday, March 13th at the Franklin County Fairgrounds. 2022 will also see a few changes. As you read in last month's Paw Prints, we had two candidates for the president position. After discussion with Kevin Landis and Stan Farlow, Kevin has withdrawn his name for 2022 but does look forward to serving as needed in the future. Thank you Kevin for volunteering and we not only look forward to your continued support of the club as an active member, but to your future service as a club officer. Stan, thank you for again stepping up and taking the reins as president, a role we all know Stan did a masterful job at from 2018-2020. Also changing for 2022 will be a much-simplified format of the Paw Prints. A "HUGE" thank you to Karen Wilson who has produced a Paw Prints this past year that is second to no other club in the country, in fact it gives the Legend a run for its money. The time and effort required to produce such a quality product is simply not sustainable in a club our size so at our annual meeting the club voted to return to a more simplified monthly publication that will consist primarily of the club

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 Bite

Attention all members, dues are payable by January 15, 2022. Check or money orders can be made payable to: THE GTO ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OHIO and can be mailed to the Treasurer, Lonnie McLaughlin, at 5808 Tarton Circle North, Dublin, OH 43017.

Dues are \$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).

We'll be meeting in person this January at the Hickory House in Gahanna, please join us on Wednesday evening, January 12th. Dinner will be available for order at 5:30 pm followed by the January meeting at 7:00 pm.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors, we wish nothing but the best to all of our GTOACO members who are celebrating December birthdays and anniversaries. We look with optimism to the promise of the new year and hope that everyone enjoys a truly blessed Christmas and holiday season. We are privileged to have you as part of our car club family!

officers, the monthly meeting minutes and any information provided by a club member for publication.

On a final note, I want to thank everyone for the help and support provided over this past year as I served as president. This club is without a doubt one of the best groups of people I have had the pleasure to be associated with! I plan to stay actively involved in the club and help wherever and whenever I can. Our next club meeting is January 12, 2022, at the Hickory House, hope to see you there!

Thank You,

NOVEMBER 10 • 2021 MEETING/INUTES

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

In Attendance were Members: Brad Blackburn, Kevin Russo, Lonnie M^oLaughlin, Rob Wilson, Ron Cozzo, Jim Lowry, Max Treier, Stan Farlow, Jeff Frazier, John Mattix, Brent Penny, and Jon and Dee Stottsberry.

Treasurer's Report – Lonnie M^cLaughlin presented the treasury report. This year we will again be making our charitable donation to Prevent Blindness Ohio as well as two additional organizations that were important to past members.

- **A \$250.00 donation** will be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention in memory of member Joe Block.
- **A \$250.00 donation** will be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in memory of member Earl Boyle.

Kevin Russo motioned to accept, Ron Cozzo 2nd.

Annual Meeting Wrap Up

• **Election of Officers and Directors** — It was announced that Stan Farlow has agreed to be our club president for 2022 as Kevin Landis has conceded. Kevin Russo will remain as vice president, Lonnie McLaughlin will remain as treasurer, and Rob Wilson will remain as club secretary.

Holiday Party – The 2022 Holiday Party will February 26th and will be hosted by Joe and Ginny Favazzo at their collector car museum near Blacklick, Ohio.

2022 Swap Meet – March 13th, 2022 is the date we have set for our All Pontiac Indoor Swap Meet which will be held at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Hilliard, Ohio. Rob will have a volunteer sign-up sheet available at the January meeting for those looking to help out with this event.

New Emeritus Members – Kevin Russo nominated Rob Wilson, a charter member of the GTOACO as an Emeritus member. The motion to accept was approved by all.

Open Discussion — Members were reminded that there is no December meeting and a brief discussion was held concerning a possible get together with Jim Evans this April.

January Meeting Location – The January meeting will be held at 7:00 pm, Wednesday evening, January 12th at the Hickory House in Gahanna. Pre-Meeting Dinner is available to order starting at 5:30 pm in the meeting room.

Motion for Adjournment – Kevin Russo, 2nd Max Trier.







Meeting Minutes Submitted By:

Rob Wilson

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



JANUARY 12.2022 MEETINGAGENDA

- Establish Quorum
- Call to Order
- Treasurer's Report Lonnie McLaughlin
- Annual Dues Reminder and Update
- Holiday Party
- 2022 Swap Meet
- Spring Cruise Ideas
- New Paw Prints Simplified Format
- Open Discussion
- Next Meeting February 9th (at the Hickory House)
- Motion for Adjournment

MEMBER DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 15 • 2022

\$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 by email at **bradblackburn@dsa-rep.com.**





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GTOAA provides many chapter clubs (includi knowledge, The Legend not currently a member	benefits including insurance covenge ours). Membership has its dimenthly magazine, vendor disco	erage for club ever advantages with bunts, and access DAA today. For ju	onal GTO Association of America. The ents which is extended to all national hover three decades of technical is to the National Convention. If you're st \$3.00 a month, you can join fellow tick here to join or renew.
Spouse's Name			
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Child's Name	C	Child's Name	
List the Year, Color, a	nd Style of the GTO(s) or Ponti	ac(s) that you c	urrently own.
Year	Color		Style
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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!



DECEMBER • CALENDAR

Carriage Parade and Festival

Saturday December 04 10:00 am — 8:00 pm

Bundle up and head out to Lebanon for the 32nd Annual Horse Drawn Carriage Parade and Christmas Festival. The Christmas festival and entertainment begin at 10 am with a daylight carriage parade at 1 pm and the traditional candlelight parade at 7 pm. We can't wait to kick-off this year's holiday season! For more details **click here**.





AAA Experienced Drivers Course

Thursday — Friday, December 16 and 17* 10:30 am — 3:30 pm

Looking for a break on your auto insurance premium? Ohio state law requires insurance companies to provide an auto insurance discount for drivers age 60+ who successfully complete AAA's Mature Operator Course. Register today classes fill quickly. *Class dates and times are subject to change. **Click here** to view the entire upcoming class schedule.



Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25 12:00 am - 12:00 pm

There are so many events to enjoy this Christmas and holiday season in and around Columbus. Mark your calendars so you don't miss out. Wishing your family a blessed Christmas Day! For season long fun check out Central Ohio's **guide** to Christmas and holiday events.





Whiley Walleye Drop

Friday, December 31 9:00 pm — Midnight

Brave the cold at Port Clinton this New Year's Eve at the **Walleye Drop** and countdown to the new year with Wylie and Friends. Live entertainment will feature Miss Kitty and the Litter. The Port Clinton community is kicking 2021 to the curb with laughter and welcoming 2022 with even more humor...Walleye Madness @ Midnight!





ob and I recently had the opportunity to visit with new members Chris and Kate McCracken at their home to take a firsthand look at their '65 Montero Red coupe. I can't speak for Rob but for me, it

instantly brought back a whole host of memories of the journey that we had taken with our restoration. And for some crazy reason, listening to all the plans for the car and hearing Chris and Rob exchanging ideas, I knew immediately that I was going to title this article Release the Kraken, or rather

Release the McCracken! And whether or not you believe in the Nordic legend, Chris and Kate, like many others who have come before them will be swallowing some legendary restoration challenges that we've all faced at one time or another. But unlike the Kraken who wants you, your crew, and your ship, the truly passionate hearts of the McCracken's just want to hear the engine come to life and feel the satisfaction of knowing that restoring their '65 coupe was born out of pure nostalgia for the good old times!

It was a pleasure meeting the McCracken's and spending some time with them. We look forward with great anticipation to seeing their coupe restored to their vision. Enjoy Chris's story...

Like many of you Pontiac and GTO's were part of my life growing up. One particular GTO, a 1965 blue hardtop had belonged to one of my buddies in high school who I've been best friends with throughout my youth and

into my adult life. The car changed hands once or twice and ended up sitting on blocks in front of the barn at my childhood friends' home in West Virginia. Another of my friends acquired that same GTO twenty to twenty-

five years ago and now it's in his garage in South Carolina where he, and now his son, professionally restore GTO's, Firebirds, Trans Am's, Catalinas, and whatever else happens to come into their shop, even a Chevy or two! I make it down to see him about once a year and I just drool at the cars in

his shop. And in the showroom sits one of his most prized possessions, an especially rare unrestored '59 Catalina, one of the Pontiac's that Fireball Roberts made famous during his fantastic racing career.

Back in the day I turned some wrenches at a local garage and service station to help pay my way through school, and I even considered being a mechanic as a profession. Now having a car in my garage that I actually know how to work on is a dream come true. I just bought my GTO five months ago and I've pulled the engine and will be straightening up the compartment a bit while I get some machining and other things done to the block and get the heads out of it. After that, the list of things to do seems absolutely endless but I am told that part of the draw is in making the car yours. My wife Kate is enthusiastic about our new addition to the family, and our 16-yearold son is a super gear head that will be a big help as I make the car "mine".





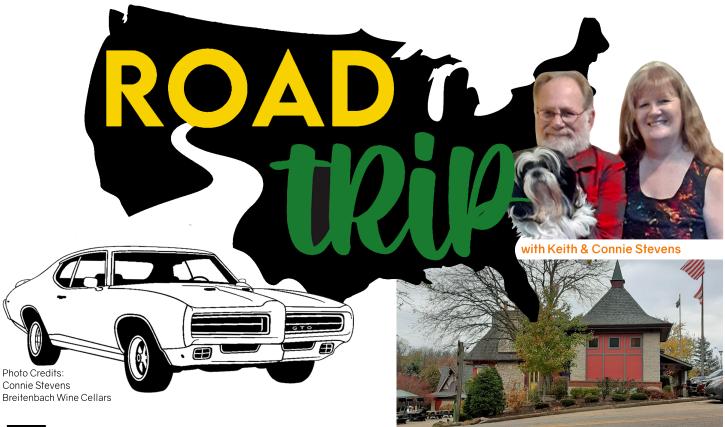












he road trip season may be officially over for our classic rides but with this past October's mild temperatures, members Keith and Connie Stevens took a drive to **Breitenbach Wine Cellars** noting that they had some rather tasty peach wine and delicious wood-fired pizza.

The winery can be found nestled among the rolling picturesque hills of Ohio's Amish countryside in Dover just a mere couple of hours northeast from the heart of our capital city. The name "Breitenbach" is German, meaning "bright or broad stream", and is actually the name of the stream that runs through the winery grounds. Breitenbach is an exclusive producer of an extensive of award-winning grape, fresh fruit, berry wines, and dandelion wine. Owner Duke Bixler and his wife Cynthia, along with their daughters Anita and Jennifer invite you take a wine tour, visit the gift shop, or simply relax with friends over a fresh salad, or wood-fired pizza from the café.

You won't likely be able to sit comfortably outside on the patio this month, but if you like hitting the road like Keith and Connie, there's sure to be plenty of winter lights and scenery to take in along the route.

And no worries...once you arrive, the Bixler family will have a warm and inviting seat waiting just for you right inside the winery's market-place You won't find a more relaxing, beautiful place to enjoy your favorite glass of wine along with a steamy hot wood-fired pizza made from the finest meats and cheeses that Amish Country has to offer!







Karen

BUILDING THE PONDAC HOLLING By Steve Schaeffer









e were bench racing, and the subject came up; can you build a vintage Pontiac V-8 engine compatible to todays modern muscle?

The Dodge Challenger Scat Pack is equipped with a 392 cubic inch Hemi V8 making 485 horsepower. With 270/40/20 cheater slicks it will run the quarter mile in 11.7 seconds at 115 MPH.

According to Desk Top Dyno V the answer is yes and here is the formula.

We start with a 1970 Pontiac 455 H.O. This engine has 4 bolt mains and the standard "D" port Pontiac high performance cylinder heads. It uses a nodular iron cast crankshaft and cast connecting rods and pistons which we replaced with forged items for more strength and durability.

Our engine is bored .030 oversize for 462 cubic inches. The final bore is 4.182 and the stroke is 4.210.

The cylinder heads are fully ported and on paper flow 270 CFM on the intakes and 187 on the exhausts at 0.500 lift. The heads are equipped with 7/16-inch big block Chevy screw in rocker studs, hardened push rods and the factory push rod guide plates. The compression ratio is 10.50 to 1 with forged pistons. With the Pontiac open chamber heads, we are running 32.0 degrees of total timing on 93 octane pump gasoline.

Ignition is electronic.

We are using a Comp Cam hydraulic roller camshaft and kit. The operating range is 1800 to 5600 RPM. The part number is XR276HR. Duration at .050 is 224 intakes and 230 exhaust. Lift is .502 intake and .510 on the exhausts with a 110-degree center line. Per Comp Cams, this is great for street machines, needs headers, low gears, and 2200 plus stall convertor on an automatic.

We are using a dual plane high flow aluminum intake manifold and an 800 CFM carburetor. The exhaust system is using big tube headers, high flow mufflers, and no cats.

The calculated horsepower is 498 at 5,000 RPM and 505 at 5,500 RPM.

With the long stroke the peak torque is 488 foot-pounds at 2,500 RPM. With the roller cam we are trading off low RPM torque for high RPM horsepower.

According to Desk Top Drags V in a 1969 GTO at 3,700 pounds, using a turbo 400 transmission, with a 2500 RPM stall convertor, a 3.55 posi rear end, and sticky tires, it would run 11.6 seconds at 119.6 mph in the quarter mile.

It would really come down to who cuts the better light.

Steve















Story compilation by Karen Wilson with contributions from Lonnie McLaughlin, Jim Lowry, Kevin Landis, and Rob Wilson

im Lowry has been a GTOACO member for well over three decades. Jim joined the club in 1988 back when the Ford Escort was the bestselling automobile for two years running (obviously economy over old school style). This past October, Jim as well as well as two other GTOACO members, Jim Evans and Jeff Inskeep all became Emeritus members of our club for being long-time contributing members. And for those of you who know Jim, you know that he can be found at virtually every club event ready to pitch in with a friendly smile on his face.

Jim worked in his early years at the Delaware County Airport, fueling planes and helping crank the props of the ones without starters. Can you say "CONTACT"! It wasn't long before he started flying lessons in 1961 in a 1942 Cessna 140 tail dragger and became a licensed pilot just two short years later in 1963. Like many folks Jim went on to work in various capacities over the years, once as a dental lab technician and then later for a company that made signs for hospitals all over the world. They made signs for both the interior and exterior of hospitals, who knew that was a special thing!

In 1965, Jim's sister-in-law and husband bought a beautiful red GTO coupe with a white hard top. It was four years later in 1969 that Jim's wife Linda purchased the car from her sister and brother-in-law and started to maintain a fuel and mileage log which Jim says he maintains to this very day. Jim tells us that Linda had purchased the car right after finishing college because she needed transportation back and forth to work. Jim on the other hand had opted for a 1967 Corvette which he purchased after returning home from the service.



" I would drop it

to third gear and

let the black

smoke roll!"

Jim reminisces with a chuckle that he and Linda had exchanged cars every week telling us that she would drive 35 miles an hour in town in forth gear! So come the weekend Jim would dutifully take whichever car Linda had driven and hit the freeway cruising at the speed limit. And then, just for good measure, and of

course to keep the cars running properly, Jim says I would drop it to third gear and let the black smoke roll! That was to clean the spark plugs!

The Lowry's married on a warm. and windy February weekend. Jim remembers taking the GTO to Washington D.C. for their honeymoon. Linda was a huge Lincoln buff, and Jim said that they visited the Lincoln Memorial five

times that week! On the way home, Jim still recalls that they were caught in a snowstorm because...well, as he puts it, that's the way the winter weather is in Ohio!

Over the years the Lowry's have tallied countless good times and more than 114,000 miles of driving fun on the odometer, and although Linda isn't with us anymore, the wealth of memories that Linda holds in his heart.

Currently, the '65 is in the process of getting a frame off restoration by fellow club member, Kevin Landis of Ohio Muscle Car in London, Ohio. We spoke with Kevin jotting down the long list of to-do's that go along with changing the frame and the full chassis restoration like

> cleaning and detailing the engine, replacing all of the seals, rebuilding the carburetor, distributor, alternator, and water pump. Factory '67 disc brakes with a dual reservoir will be installed and the rear-end will be rebuilt. The body will be reunited with new mounts to an Arizona frame with a one-piece floor from DJ GTO in Stoutsville, Ohio. Kevin tells us that the factory 4-

speed transmission and shifter will also be rebuilt, and that Jim has opted for some turbo mufflers so that the iconic GTO sound will return!

There is no doubt that Jim is looking forward to getting the GTO back on the road in its original beauty. He remarks that the greatest thing about our club is the





it will always be worth it!

The Lowry's '65 GTO enjoying some much needed love at **Ohio Muscle Car.**

Photo Credits | Kevin Landis



WINTERPARTY

HOSTED BY JOE & GINNY FAVAZZO

FEBRUARY 26TH 2021 | DETAILS TO FOLLOW

BUY • SELL • TRADE

SEND US YOUR ADS FOR JANUARY BY DECEMBER 12, 2021 • EMAIL THE SECRETARY AT: ro.wilson@att.net







Muncie 4 speed transmissions rebuilt for \$300.00 plus parts. The basic rebuild kit consists of front and rear bearings, all needle bearings, gaskets, snap rings, seals, forged synchro rings, front input retainer nut, synchro keys and springs. Also includes new counter shaft. In addition I am now purchasing new front bearing retainers, shift forks, and synchro sliders. These parts with shipping are \$304.05. Unless your transmission has damaged gears, case, etc. your trans will shift like it was brand new. I can normally get new or used gears, cases, tailhousings, side covers, mid plates, etc. as necessary and still save you money.







323 Posi Rear End – BOP in good used condition \$650.00

400 Short Block - 1968 WT 60 Over, balanced, crane cam, approximately 8,000 miles on it \$900.00 OBO

4 Pontiac Hubcaps - \$40.00 OBO

4 Rally Two Rims + 4 Centercaps + 4 Good Tires - \$175.00 OBO

5 Olds Center Caps — Set of 5 \$30.00

8.5 GM Carriage - \$75.00 OBO

Contact: Robert Burk — Additional parts are available for sale, please inquire.

Phone: 740-385-7077

323 Posi Rear End — \$1200.00 Brand new gears and axles built by Sonic Motors. (Compare to Chevy 12 bolt at \$2600) Please note this is not a used rear end. Best cruising gear to keep your 389 cool. Will deliver to any GTO Association of Central Ohio 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 at 11283 Main Street in Stoutsville. All GTOACO 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

PAGE 22 GTOACO PAW PRINTS

Wanted to Buy-Looking to see if anyone has the following they'd be interested in selling.

- Cam Dial-In Tool (Heads Off)
- Cam Installation Tool
- Ring Filing Tool
- Ring Installation Tool (4.15 Bore)
- Timing Light

Contact: Chris McCracken Phone: 614-816-3180



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www.thehickoryhouse.com

We buy and sell used and NOS parts for the Pontiac GTO, Lemans, and Tempest, mainly 64-72. We also sell some complete cars and a few parts for Firebird, Bonneville, Catalina, and Grand Prix. Call first for an appointment or stop by the shop.



DJ GTO Parts Dan Gregory II

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www.inskeepbrothers.com

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family at the dinner table who doesn't speak to one another but has their noses buried in their smartphones instead. Get off the couch once in a while. Don't eat Spam, bacon is better. Try dark chocolate with just a pinch of sea salt. Embrace green drinks. Margarine sucks but butter rules. Buy a blender that doesn't wake the dead! Oh, and good lord keep your damn wheel wells clean, and finally if you follow my same thought process that the posted speed limit is merely a suggestion and the law appears out of nowhere, for the love of god don't hit the brake, that's just an admission of guilt, simply get your foot out of it and gracefully coast on by...

All good wishes to you, Kare



we are grateful for all the memories we've created this year and the ones we'll be making in the new year. A new year means a new chapter. We hope that 2022 is an incredible part of your story!

Wishing you a Happy New Year with the hope that you and your family will have many blessings.