



LEGENDARY LINES

January 2024



MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT *Revisited*

Winter 1984-By David Gale *First shared August 2020*



My parents had a variety of cars while growing up including Buick's, Pontiac's, Grand Prix and GMC trucks. As you can see, General Motors was the preferred auto maker. One Sunday winter morning in 1984 my dad came in my room and asked, "do you want a 1974 GTO?" I thought "what does that look like"? Dad worked for Valley Pontiac in Auburn at the time. I already had a 1976 Toyota Celica. I added color match mirrors and a spoiler to the Celica, and it looked sharp. I drove down and looked. It was red on red with a black top, functional shaker hood and a hatchback with 62,464 miles. The price was right at \$2500. It worked out that I could buy the GTO and keep the Celica. At 19 years old I had two cars that other kids could admire. Before I brought the GTO home, dad took the car to Stans Headers in Auburn and had glass packs added. That gave it a nice sound.

Club Meeting

January 13th 6pm [Amante Pizza and Pasta](#) - Kent

The 2024 club meeting dates are shown on [page 3](#)

INSIDE THE LINES

Presidents Pen	2
Events, Meetings and Officers	3
Payton's Corner	4
Members Spotlight	5
Members Marketplace	10
Sponsors	11
Washington Car Events	15

MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Northwest GTO legends has 115+ members in the club. That is a lot of stories that other members would enjoy reading.

Share your personal story about your pride and joy, short or long with photos. Or, just a note about an interesting, unique or cool car place you visited.

Send your stories to davidgale@comcast.net

www.northwestlegends.com

<https://www.facebook.com/northwestlegends/>



The President's Pen - By Bill Nelson



Hello Legends members,

Hello to all and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is healthy and happy.

Our Christmas party was a real success at the Thunderdome, and we thank the Western Washington Firebirds for their participation in the event.

*I'm really looking forward to the new year and the new season of car shows coming up. Please look at the car show list in this issue of *Legendary Lines* for the lineup.*

*We have a great variety of events planned for this year. I can hardly wait to get started. This year the **Tiger Show moves back to its home in Richland.***

One of our initiatives this year is to get more word out to people to attend our shows. To that end Wally has created a new flyer that has all our three shows for the year on it as well as a membership application on the back side. These will be available at our regular club meeting that has been delayed one week, on January 13th.

One of my goals this year is to have more gatherings of club members at various events or cruises. This I hope to accomplish by communicating with members via our club computer system, G-Man, so I can send emails out to everyone.

Lastly, I would like to thank our car show committee for all their hard work last year as well. Also, all of our members and volunteers for making our car shows and events the great things they are.

Being a member of this club is a special privilege because this club has many specialized people that make it what it is, and that's not something you find every day.

Happy New Year everyone and a good 2024 is ahead for all of us.

Bill Nelson president Northwest GTO Legends.



2024 NW GTO Legends Sanctioned Events

May 24/25/26

6th Annual - Tigers on the Columbia - Richland Washington - Holiday Inn Richland Riverfront Hotel - Howard Amon Park

June 30

11th Annual NW American Muscle Car Show- Tacoma (Griots Garage)

August 25

36th Annual Northwest Muscle Car Meet -Tacoma (Griots Garage)

NW GTO Legends - Club Events

August 17

Club Hosted BBQ - Ted & Jacque Hosted "Barbeque By The Bay"

December 8

Club Christmas Party - Burien - Merrill Gardens

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

Bill Nelson

SECRETARY

Bob Stevenson

TREASURER

Tom Willett (Julio)

Vice President

Ted Knapp

CAR SHOW CHAIRMAN

Ted Knapp

AT LARGE

Steve Martin

Club Meetings

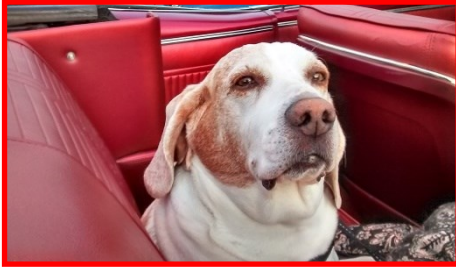
Amante Pizza and Pasta-Kent

21020 84th Ave S, Kent, WA 98032

All Meetings at 6PM

January	13	February	3
March	2	April	6
May	4	June	1
July	6	August	3
September	NO MEETING	October	5
November	2	December	Christmas Party





PAYTON'S CORNER

THE PLACE FOR GTO AND OTHER
CAR FUN FACTS



12 New Year's resolutions to stay safe on the road in 2024

[Santander Consumer USA](#) Classics Revealed:

12 TIPS FOR THE ROAD
ROAD-WISE RESOLUTIONS TO DRIVE SAFER IN 2024

- Model good behavior**
Don't doubt that your kids are watching your driving habits. "Children learn from their parents," says Consumer Reports. "Don't show them bad habits."
- Properly maintain your vehicle**
Performing regular tire checks, examining for leaks, getting regular tune-ups and routine maintenance will help ensure your vehicle will stay in optimal condition.
- Never drive impaired**
(Including driving drowsy.) And watch out for others who may be driving impaired. "Driving on 4 to 5 hours of sleep makes you four times more likely to crash," according to the National Safety Council.
- Don't use your mobile device**
Especially for texting. Studies show the risks are similar to driving drunk!
- Buckle up**
Not wearing seatbelts is against the law in many states.
- Signal**
Something as simple as using your "blinker" could prevent nearly two million accidents a year.
- Stop on red**
Seems obvious, but red-light running injures tens of thousands of people annually – most of them occupants in other vehicles. Rolling stops don't count.
- Drive the speed limit**
(or as close as possible). Speeding is a factor in about one-third of fatal car crashes.
- No tailgating**
Staying back – the faster you're traveling, the further back – could keep you out of an accident. If someone is tailgating you, politely signal them to pass.
- Keep your kids safe**
Secure children under age 8 in car seats and children 12 and under in the back seat.
- Drive defensively**
Be aware of what others around you are doing. Expect the unexpected.
- Check the weather**
If you must go out in bad weather, be prepared for the challenges.

Santander Consumer USA

To make keeping your resolutions a little easier, we also have come up with some ways to help:

- **Make sure your resolutions** are things you really want – like keeping yourself, your family, friends or other passengers safer in your car.
- **Limit your resolutions** to a manageable number. So even if a dozen seems like a lot, think in terms of working on one or two a month until you've accomplished them all.
- **Make your goals as specific** as possible – rather than simply maintaining your car better, schedule tire checks, oil-level checks, tune-ups, windshield wiper and fluid checks, etc.
- **Change your habits**, if necessary, such as using your turn signal when entering traffic or changing lanes or making buckling up your seatbelt the first thing you do when you get in the car.
- **Visualize your goals** regularly by keeping them in a prominent place – a desk, table, mirror or refrigerator – something we've made easier for you by compiling the graphic above.
- **Share your resolutions** with friends and family who will hold you accountable, share your progress on accomplishing your goals, and reward yourself when you do.

Don't give up if you slip. Any goal worth achieving is liable to come with setbacks. Rely on your friends and family to keep you focused throughout the year.

Bonus

The Funniest Classic Car Ever...Rock and Rolls Again

1984 Reliant—3 Wheeler

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lwz9JoOz2k>



LEGENDARY LINES



In May 1985 a vehicle pulled out in front of me while driving the GTO and there was a collision. The right front end was damaged. A few months later the Celica was totaled on a snowy day in the winter of 1985.

The GTO became a daily driver and was equipped with studded snow tires and I had no trouble driving in the snow. In the summer of 1986, I almost did the unthinkable. Trading the GTO in for another vehicle. At the time I had a real passion for low rider full size blazers. My mom and I went to Chevrolane on Aurora Avenue in Seattle and looked at a beautiful black lowered Blazer. I was ready to make the move until the sales guy asked, “what are you trading in?” I said “1974 GTO”. His response was “who wants one of those?” Obviously, I did not trade the GTO in for the Blazer. After thinking about it I said, “I do” and the love affair with my 1974 GTO began.

Time to make some changes to the '74. I wanted Centerline wheels and new tires. A friend of mine had Centerlines on his Fairlane and they looked awesome and I had to have a set as well. However, I ended up with Enkie wheels with spinners and some new rubber from Les Schwab. It was also was time for a fresh paint job. Off to a place that would be referred to currently as MAACO. The '74 has been painted 3 times. Maaco, a shop in Auburn, and most recently at Rillos Restoration.

After the paint and added rims there were many trips to the Renton Loop, Puyallup Loop and Alki cruising and cranking Metal Church and Accept through the newly added Kenwood stereo. Many miles spent on highway 167 and at one point hitting a top speed of 115 mph. Some of the comments I used to hear were “that is not a GTO?”. Is that a Nova, Omega or Buick Apollo?

My dad always had personalized license plates so I thought would get one for the GTO. I submitted three choices “RARE”, “RAREGTO” and “MY74GTO”. Choice #1 was taken. I received my second choice and later I realized that it was the best choice for my 1974. Now that I had a new license plate the comments changed to “I didn’t realize that they made a 1974 GTO”.



LEGENDARY LINES



There were several original documents in the glove box. It included all the owner manuals, registration and a new vehicle inspection procedure dated 3/1/1974. I contacted the original owner by **calling information (for those who remember information)** and spoke with the lady who originally purchased the GTO from Gray Motors in Port Angeles Washington. We spoke on the phone for 10-15 minutes about the car. The one thing I still remember about the conversation was she said she bought the car because it had a hatchback and that worked well for her golf clubs.



As time goes on and the kid's sports practices and games took over the daily activities, the GTO was driven less and stored more. During the winters it was stored under a plastic tarp at my parent's house...I know, bad choice, and I realize that now.

Fast Forward to 2007. I finally have a garage for the GTO. Decided to bring her home one winter evening. Took the tarps off. She started right up as she always has. Melinda and the kids followed me home to West Seattle from Covington and she backfired most of the way. The family said there was fire coming out of the tail pipes, but I made it without any other incidents.

From 2007- 2016 the 1974 lived in the garage and was driven rarely but every time we went for a cruise, the comments were there.

Early 2016 we decided to join the **Northwest GTO legends** again (originally was going to join in 1998). The same year the GTOAA nationals was held in Bellevue for the annual event. We went to the event. Melinda was not feeling well with a fever, but she was a trooper knowing how much it meant to me to go. We walked around and saw some amazing cars. There was even a gold 1974 not in particularly good shape. We met Mark the "Goat Herder" and picked up a hard to find Ventura and Sprint 1971-1976 parts catalogue. Also, while chatting with Marc, it was discovered that he had a tent that was available back in 1974 for the 1974 GTO. We took his business card and left the show.



LEGENDARY LINES



Fast forward to summer of 2018. We decided to take a trip to Dufur, Oregon (with a population of 642) to see Marc and talk about the tent. After much discussion and negotiation, we ended up leaving without the tent. His price seemed to high. We went onto our trip to Portland. After Melinda and I discussed this further, we decided we could not pass up this very rare opportunity and went back to Dufer to give him the price he wanted. We ended up driving home with an extremely hard to find new tent for our 1974.

January 2019, after nearly 35 years, it was time for a proper make over. Took her to a paint shop, Rillos Restoration in Kent on the recommendation of a friend. We picked the GTO up in October 2019 and ended up taking her back to the paint shop for a repaint due to mismatch color. We brought her home July 2020 after several back and forth deliveries trying to get it perfect. This shop normally works on Porsche's. We heard many times how "Well, you know these old cars". New exhaust has been installed as well as a new vinyl top being completed by Sunmark upholstery in Bellevue. All the chrome and aluminum parts have been re-chromed or polished at Art Brass in Seattle. I did receive a call from Darrell at Art Brass one Saturday morning saying that one of the rear window moldings got caught around the buffing wheel and was basically destroyed. I started looking for a new one...not anywhere. I thought maybe, just maybe, Marc in Dufur would have the part. And to my surprise he had the window molding for a 1974 GTO hatchback.

Marc sent one up to Seattle within the week. Marc said the glass in the hatchback he had had been broken and that is why he was able to let the parts go. Incredibly lucky! The seat covers came from Ames Performance. Just like the 1973 GTO, there are extremely limited parts at Ames for anything past a 1972



This is what happens when stored under plastic tarp

GTO. Luckily the only repop parts on the car are the drip rail moldings. Otherwise, everything is factory original.

I requested and received the documents from Pontiac Historic Services that show a GTO option cost \$322.61 and the total cost of the car was \$3858.21. The GTO was shipped to Gray Motors in Port Angeles on 2/19/1974. There were 1,036 1974 GTO Hatchbacks with an automatic built. The question is, how many with RED, RED, and black top? Then of those, how many are left? See additional photos on next page



LEGENDARY LINES

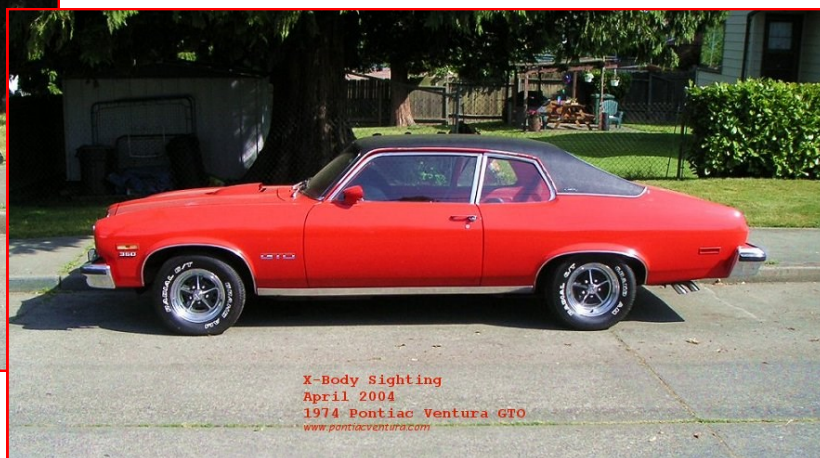
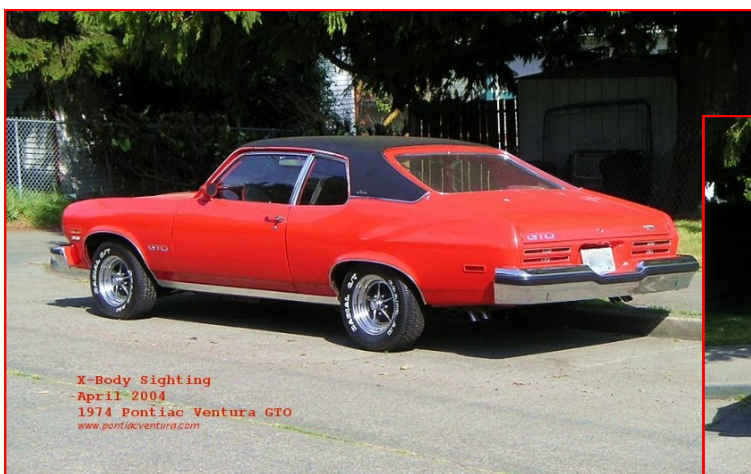


I have always searched out any information regarding the 1974 GTO over the years, I have found and acquired the following literature regarding the 1974. *Car and Driver October 1973*, *Motor Trend September 1973* (1974 GTO on the cover with the headline, "74's Hottest Muscle Car"), Pontiac 1974 and GTO original dealership brochures "Pontiac's tough little road car".

I was online looking for 1974 GTO articles and came across the site Pontiacventura.com section 1974 page 9. (http://pontiacventura.com/1974_pontiac_ventura_gto_9.htm) I thought "That car looks familiar" and low and behold it was mine. There are two photos of my car with this comment next to them *"This could be the actual car that originally re-kindled my interest in buying another Ventura (and as a bonus, starting this website). To protect the owner's privacy, I've wiped the plate and will not disclose the location. Are those Buick sport rims? The fact that they are perfectly lined up for the photo is just too cool! This car also has a rare vinyl top."*

Pretty cool find!!

Here are the photos from the above website-2004



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS OF THE '74



LEGENDARY LINES



The Northwest GTO Legends Founded in 1984—The largest chapter of the GTOAA



Members Marketplace

A PLACE FOR MEMBERS TO **BUY** AND **SELL** SERVICES, GTO AND OTHER MUSCLE CAR ITEMS

FOR SALE: TH400 3-speed auto transmission with short tail shaft for Buick/Olds/Pontiac bell housing. Data tag: 76-OA-5678. I had this in my '66 GTO prior to restoration and it worked great, no issues whatsoever. It has a shift kit, so the shifts are nice and firm. New owner can run as-is, or freshen it up if desired. Includes dipstick and dipstick tube. Asking \$500.

Email: karlsfreese@gmail.com Phone: (517) 402-8079



A special thank you to our sponsors listed below—please support our sponsors as they support our club.



Since 1955, T&T Tire has been an independent, locally owned business which has provided a complete range of tire and automotive services, with quality major brands to residential and commercial customers. <https://www.pointstire.com/tacoma?>



Metal Magic is a family owned and operated business serving Pierce County for nearly TWO decades. We started as a mobile paintless dent repair company and throughout the years have grown to specialize in many additional services.

<https://www.metalmagicnw.com/>



We started DigiPointe LaserWorks in 2014 out of an entrepreneurial American spirit to own our own business. We've grown steadily for the past 6 years continuing to expand our product

<https://digipointe.com/>



We have established a reputation among our customers for prompt service and the finest quality available. This attention to quality is especially evident in our reproduction items, many more of which are now being made in our own shop. <https://www.amesperf.com/>



Our deep knowledge of cars and their owners lets us offer you exceptional classic car insurance coverage for less.

<https://www.hagerty.com/>



Martinson Autoworks

Call 253-459-5588



A special thank you to our sponsors listed below-please support our sponsors as they support our club.



Locally owned since 1960, originally by father, Claude Bouchard, Pacific Auto Machine is now proudly owned and operated by son, Garry Almont. Over the years, Pacific Auto Machine has earned a reputation of quality and precision entrusted by fellow machinists, mechanics, dealers and long standing customers <http://www.pacificautomachine.com/>



Burién Upholstery has served the Seattle area for over 45 years providing experience and high quality craftsmanship in upholstery repair.

<https://burienupholstery.com/>



Pilkey Hopping & Ekberg started out as Frank Ekberg & Company in a small storefront on Pacific Avenue in downtown Tacoma in 1896.

<https://pheinsurance.com/>



KNAPP DEVELOPMENT
Ted F. Knapp
President

Knapp Development by Ted F. Knapp, President
knappdevelopment@aol.com

Provides comprehensive commercial real estate development services specializing in large-scale manufacturing and warehouse/distribution projects.

Involved in the development of more than 12 million SF of industrial space in the Pacific NW.



At Griot's Garage, we are driven to provide our customers with exceptional products and customer service... all backed by a world-class guarantee. We strive for perfection by holding ourselves to the highest standards at every turn.

<https://www.griotsgarage.com/corporate-hq-flagship-retail->



A special thank you to our sponsors listed below-please support our sponsors as they support our club.



The vehicles in our lot are all hand picked. This insures quality throughout our inventory. We do not buy vehicles in large bulk quantities. We take pride in what we sell and do not want you to drive away in a vehicle that doesn't have you smiling.

<https://www.richscarcorner.com/>



Wesco is the premier paint and equipment supplier across the Western U.S. for the automotive refinish, industrial, commercial, aerospace and marine markets. In business for more than 45 years, Wesco is proud to provide exceptional service and the best value top quality products in the industry. <https://wescopbe.com/>

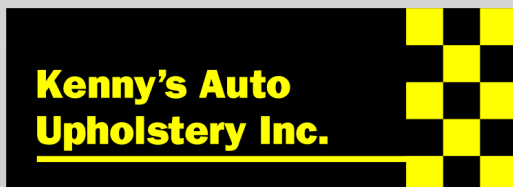


We provide expert service for stock or custom Fuel injection and Carburetor systems, in house Dyno tuning, Computer reprogramming, Superchargers and State Emission Control compliance. <https://www.carbconn.com/>



Performance Prep has provided motorists in the western Washington, 98003 area with quality comprehensive auto repair services that include 4x4 Services, Alignment, Brakes, Car & Truck Care, Domestic Cars & Trucks, Electrical Services, Electronic Services, Engine & Transmission, Engine Maintenance, Fleet Brakes, Fleet Drive Train, Fleet Engine Work, Fleet Front End Services, Fleet General Services, Fleet Suspension Work, Fleet Tires, Fleet Trailer Work, Fleet Wheel Services, General Services, Heating and Cooling Services, Import Cars & Trucks, Inspections and Emissions, Services, Transmission Services and Undercar Services.

<https://www.pprep.com/>



Kenny's Auto Upholstery

309 Airport Wy, Renton, WA 98057

[\(425\) 255-0731](tel:(425)255-0731)



Washington State Car Events

The Northwest GTO Legends has members that live up and down the I-5 corridor and east of the cascades and even out of state. Here are some car events throughout the state that I pulled from oldride.com. This List will grow as events are discovered. When you attend any events please send photos, so they can be shared between the **LEGENDARY LINES**.

[White River High School Motorsports Club Car Show](#)

May 18, 2024 - May 18, 2024

[Gear Heads Father's Day Car Show](#)

June 16, 2024 - June 16, 2024

[Vietnam Veterans Chapter #165 13th Annual Car Show](#)

July 21, 2024 - July 21, 2024

[Kirkland Police Explorer Benefit Car Show](#)

September 14, 2024 - September 14, 2024

White River School District

360-829-5550

Scott Calkins

3602202686

Duane Holliday

360-733-5119

Patti Ball

425-587-3408

Buckley

Lynden

Bellingham

Kirkland