



TIGER TALES



August 2011

Monthly Newsletter of the



TarHeel Tigers Pontiac Club

Raleigh Chapter of the GTO Association of America
Raleigh Chapter of National Firebird and Trans Am Club



Visit our Web Page at <http://www.tarheeltigers.org>

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 6, 2011

**At Auto Performance Center
922 US Highway 70, Garner, NC 27529**

Classics at the Capital





President's Message (Steve Veatch)



Hi guys,

These last few months have been filled with plenty of car shows & Summer fun, I hope everyone has had a chance to get out and enjoy themselves! Between the Classics at the Capital show, The TA nationals, Norwalk, Charlotte (& Bristol for you NASCAR fans!) I know some of us haven't had much time to rest.

Now that school back in & cooler weather here it'll be easier for some of us to get back to our project cars. If your project needs some inspiration or you need a little prodding, just come to a meeting & the crew there will be sure to get you fired up! I've heard there's going to be an Overhauling style resto done to a certain club members '68 Firebird in upcoming months....stay tuned for details!

We are getting a few months away from election time for The Tarheel Tigers officers & if you'd like to help keep this club

to keep growing please consider throwing your hat in the ring for any of the positions. The jobs are not that difficult & fresh ideas are always good for the club. If you have any questions, contact myself or any of the other club officers about what the jobs requirements are.

Thanks everyone & see you at the meeting!
Steve



Editor's Note (Jerry Hazi)



Hey everyone,

Had a busy last couple of months attending shows and having a lot of laughs along the way. The trip again to the Pontiac Nationals was the highlight of the summer.

Thanks to Dustin for driving his Dodge Ram truck. We made it to Norwalk in record time with the Pop-up wheels never touching the road. It was just flying along with no brake lights, (we noticed when we arrived). Between the Pontiac Swap meet, the car show and drag racing all day, this is the show to go to.

Next year dates for the Ames Performance Pontiac Tri-Power Nationals: August 3, 4, 5 2012



ROSTER UPDATE

Updated e-mail addresses: Please e-mail new addresses to Sheila Ward WARD_922@bellsouth.net, Steve Veatch veatchs@bellsouth.net, Jerry Hazi jjvic@earthlink.net, or David Hinnant dhinnant1@nc.rr.com. Thanks!
Printed copies of the THT membership roster and copies of the Newsletters are now available at the meetings.



MINUTES



August, 2011 Meeting

We held our monthly club meeting at Auto Performance 19 Members attended.



We would like to thank all the club members who attended and

new members Bob Lovelace and Daniel Santarsiero.

Talked about the Cars-N-Coffee At Brier Creek, NC exotic cars gathering, on the 1st Saturday of the every month.

We talked about the up-coming shows that individuals plan to participate in.

Time to get the cars out and have some fun with them.

Thanks Jerry

DIRECTIONS

REGULAR MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of each month, from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Auto Performance Center, 922 Hwy 70, Garner West. **SPECIAL MEETINGS** are held periodically. Check the cover of this newsletter; visit our website, or call/e-mail an officer for next month's meeting location.

VOLUNTEERS

| <u>President</u> | <u>VP &Car Show Chair</u> | <u>Scrap Book Editor</u> | <u>Web Page Editor</u> | <u>Newsletter</u> | <u>Treasurer</u> |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Steve Veatch | David Hinnant | Butch Powell | Ross Merle | Jerry Hazi | Sheila Ward |
| veatchs@bellsouth.net | dhinnant1@nc.rr.com | butch_gto_powell@yahoo.com | merlemac@bellsouth.net | jjvic@earthlink.net | WARD_922@bellsouth.net |

CLUB T-SHIRTS/ WINDOW STICKERS



T-Shirts



Window Stickers

Contact Chris Hastings at: 919-876-3874 or gto648@nc.rr.com
Window Stickers

TarHeel Tigers Club T-shirts:
\$12.00, Heather gray w/ silk-screened tiger head logo;
Men's sizes M - XXXL.
Contact Steve Veatch at:
tarheeltigers@bellsouth.net

SEMA ACTION NETWORK

<http://www.semasan.com/san/join.aspx>

The **SEMA Action Network** is a nationwide partnership of car clubs, and individual enthusiasts (like you) who work together to impact legislation that affects car and truck hobbyists of all kinds. By joining the SAN you will receive up-to-date alerts on hobby-related legislation in your state and across the country.

MEMBER'S SERVICES

| | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| Anderson Creek Auto Sales & Salvage | Bobby Tomlinson | (910) 893-8835 |
| Auto Performance Center | Steve & Sheila Ward | (919) 772-5957 |
| Dustin's Ceramic Tile / Pencil Drawing of Your Car | Dustin Tart | (919) 366-3311 |
| Patio Enclosures Inc of Raleigh | Bill Karras | (919) 467-2846 |
| Pontiac Tri-Powers Rebuilt | Gary Anderson | (919) 848-1928 |
| Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. | Butch Powell | (910) 893-4450 |
| Just Music! DJ Service | Ross Merle | (919) 621-9262 |
| N.C. Auto Appraisal | Brian Manning | (919) 606-6720 |
| Leith of Wendell Chrysler Dodge Jeep | Jerry Hazi | (919) 366-7000 |
| Personal Security Storage Inc., 1101 Trinity Rd, Raleigh, NC | Cary Kasdorf | (919)851-8585 |
| Hendrick Buick Pontiac GMC | Tommy Laakso | (919)380-8267 |

SERVICES Etc. (Non-Members)

| | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| Butler Performance (Pontiac performance service & parts) | www.butlerperformance.com | (866)762-7527 |
| Pontiac Historic Services (document your Pontiac) | http://www.phs-online.com | (586)781-5164 |
| Colors On Parade (Paint Repair on Classic Vehicles) | www.autopaintinaday.com | (919)971-5158 |
| Manual Transmission Sales & Service | Dennis Maroudas | (606)237-6648 |
| Pontiac GTO and Firebird T-shirts, etc. | www.pontiacmall.com | (800)558-2550 |
| Fleszar Insurance Services Inc, Raleigh NC | Specialty Auto Insurance | (919)787-7305 |
| Frank's Pontiac Parts | www.frankspontiacparts.com | (760)361-3242 |
| NPD National Parts Depot | www.npdlink.com (Charlotte) | (800)368-6451 |
| Fuquay Storage, LLC (storage for boats, campers, jet skis & cars) | | (919)577-0237 |
| Automotive Touch Up Paint | www.paintscratch.com | (800)225-2855 |
| Pontiac Performance Years, Classic Pontiac Parts | www.performanceyears.com | (267)638-3500 |
| Tayloe's Paintless Dent Repair | | (919)275-4292 |

CLASSIFIEDS

Send your ads to Jerry Hazi jjvic@earthlink.net.

Ads run for three months unless renewed.

DISCLAIMER: *Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and may not reflect those of TarHeel Tigers Pontiac Club Officers or Members. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of Statements made herein.*

CARS FOR SALE

1967 Pontiac LeMans-david.englishinn@gmail.com Has P/S, P/drums, A/C, a 400 with factory exhaust and intake manifolds dated to 1974. Rallye II's and new tires. Car is very straight and clean. Paint could use some detailing but looks great 20/20. Interior is nice with just a couple small seam splits in the drivers bucket. Has a TH350 and center console correct for this transmission. Bucket seats, The car looks original to the casual observer but there are a few giveaways like the modern alternator that indicate the swap. The package tray was not cut for 6 x 9's, nor was the dash for a modern radio. I paid \$16K for it back in '9/07. I have more pics for

those that are interested. I will consider reasonable partial trades. **Lowered asking price** \$13000.00 Wilson, NC.

08/01/2011



1979 SE Trans Am. Black with 81510 miles. PHS Documented 79 Y84, 403 SE car. As far as I know engine and transmission are original. Comes with GM T-Top bags, TH350 transmission, 3.08 or 3.23 rear axle, 4 wheel disc brakes, ws6 performance package, black hobnail custom interior, rear defroster, power windows and door locks, cruise control, body moldings, heavy duty battery, lamp group option, super 3cooling radiator and tilt wheel. Comes with two noses, original and a red one. It does not have all the A/C parts and will need exhaust. Call Brian Robbins at 757-660-3037 or E-mail, the78bandit@msn.com
Asking \$5000.00 11/01/2010

WANTED

61-66 Tri-power set-ups or carbs, any cond. Gary Anderson 919/848-1928, gto-tiger@nc.rr.com (ongoing)

Hood w/scoops & front fenders for a 71-72 GTO. Also looking for 70 Lemans body parts & options. Thanks!
Please contact Steve @ veatchs@bellsouth.net (ongoing)

PARTS/MISC FOR SALE

We'll transfer **any photo onto a coffee mug, mouse pad, car tag, T-shirt, name tag, or plaque.** We also have world famous tiger tails, ears, and key chains. Call 828/241-4947 or email tigermadness@charter.net, or visit <http://www.tigermadness.com/>. TarHeel Tigers member prices: 11oz mug \$10.00, 15oz mug \$12.00, mouse pad \$12.00 Rex Bumgarner, 4928 Northcrest St., Claremont, NC 28610

GTO apparel – Mad House High Performance Apparel: www.madhousemarketing.com, 1-262-389-7617
Custom art work or club logo. **Ultimate GTO Store**, www.ultimategto.com center for GTO merchandise.

For Sale: Complete pair of 1966 GTO front seats, black with manual adjust. Some small cracks, one hole on upper shoulder, \$500 for pair. 1967 GTO/LeMans/Tempest radiator support \$75.00 GM A-Bodies P-1060 frt. Shocks, still in GM boxes. \$20.00 per pair. Raleigh, NC. 919-841-0458 Can email photos of any item if needed. Tim Wagner 19gto66@gmail.com

Pontiac Parts for sale: Mostly 2nd Generation Firebird/Trans Am Parts. Mike Montague 919-518-1905
blue4spdmike@att.net

AUTO EVENTS WEBSITES

*PLEASE notify editor of any errors, changes, or additions. Show Flyers may be available on our web site. Verify **BEFORE** you make the trip.*

Hubcap Café: Area's car shows - <http://www.hubcapcafe.com/calendar/north-carolina.htm>

Car Show News & Classic Auto Events - <http://www.carshownews.com/national/NC.htm>

Carsolina – Car Shows and calendar of events - www.carsolina.com

Trans Am's web site with a forum, shows & events - www.transamcountry.com

2004-2006 GTO web site & forum – www.LS1GTO.com

Pontiac Bonneville – www.bonnevilleforum.com

Trans Am web site – www.78ta.com

North Carolina Events – www.olderide.com/events/northcarolina

CAR SHOWS 2011



Being Attended by THT Members:

- September 10 Wendell UMC Car show, 129 N Main St., Wendell
- Sept. 10-16 2011 Chowder Run, Drivin' It Home with Year One. www.drivinithome.com
- September 15-18 O'Reilly Auto Parts NHRA Nationals, Z-MAX Dragway, Charlotte
- September 17 Clayton Harvest/Music Festival Classic Car and Truck show
- September 17 Youngsville Fall Festival Car Show
- September 17 Cars for a Cure Car Show, 1575 W. Williams St. Apex
- September 24 Corinth Holders High School, Car/Motorcycle fundraiser show, 1475 W Market, Smithfield
- October 8 Pow Wow at the Beach, Hooters, N. Myrtle Beach, SC Palmetto Chapter of POCI Int'l
- ✓ October 14-16 Henderson, 10th Annual Show, Shine, Shag & Dine / East Coast Drag Hall of Fame week
- ✓ October 28-30 Goodguys Rod & Custom Association 18th Southeastern Nationals, Charlotte
- November 5 Celebration of the Automobile Car Show, 330 Elizabeth Brady Rd Hwy. 70A, Hillsborough
- ✓ November 11-13 Carolina Collector Auto Fest, Raleigh Fairgrounds
- November 19 2011 Reunion Cruise at Grill 57

CRUISE-INS (April through October)

PLEASE notify editor of any errors, changes, or additions.

Verify BEFORE you drive!!!

Thursdays – High Point NC – National Home Furnishings
6:30pm 'til? 1628 Main Street,
½ mile north of Business 85 on
Highway 311. Info: 336/882-
8809.

Fridays – Greensboro NC –
Sonic Drive-in 6:30pm 'til?
3932 W. Market Street. (Mar 5
– Oct 29) Info: Doug Seawell
336/ 698-0597

Fridays – Hope Mills, Hosted
by Cape Fear Classics,
Smithfield BBQ, Fayetteville

Thursdays – DQ Grill & Chill.
5260 New Bern, Raleigh

1st Friday - N rain date 2nd
Friday (April – October),
Henderson NC, 6-9pm at Roses
parking lot.

3rd Friday – (April –Sept) 4pm
Creedmoor Cruise-In. Andy's
Hwy. 56 Food Lion parking lot

3rd Fridays – Fuquay-Varina
Downtown Cruise-In. 5 to 9pm
April 15, 2011 [www.Fuquay-
varinadowntown.com](http://www.Fuquay-varinadowntown.com)

1st Saturday – Char-Grill
4621 Atlantic Ave., Raleigh
4:00pm, Music & food.

2nd Sunday – Hooter's of
Burlington, Ext. 141 of I-85
12:00 to 5:00

Grill 57 3rd Saturday of the month.
Next gathering is Sept. 17.
4202 Fayetteville Rd, Raleigh

4th Saturday – Sonic Cruise In,
Zebulon, 4:00 on. Starting
March 26,2011

2nd Sat. – Wakefield ATV,
April-Oct. Wake Forest.

2nd Sat. (March – Oct) Tar
River Cruizers, Wimpy's
Restaurant, Henderson

4th Sat. New Cruise, High
Park Bar-Grill, in-side belt line,
625 W Whitaker Mill Rd.,
Raleigh, starting April 27

4th Saturdays – JR's Discount
Outlet Cruise-in, Burlington.
March – Oct. 5 to 9pm.



TEST & TUNE DRAGSTRIPS

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------|--|
| Coastal Plains Dragway | (IHRA ¼ Mile), 4744 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville, NC 28541 | 910-347-2200 | coastalplainsraceway.com |
| Dunn-Benson Dragstrip | (IHRA 1/8 Mile), 555 Dragstrip Road, Benson, NC 27504, | 919-894-1662 | dunnbensondragstrip.com |
| Farmington Dragway | (IHRA 1/8 Mile), 2992 Hwy. 801 North, Mocksville, NC 27028, | 336-399-6122 | farmingtondragway.net |
| Fayetteville Drag Strip | (IHRA ¼ mile), 4480 Doc Bennett Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28306 | 910-484-3677 | fayettevillemotorsportspark.com |
| Mooresville Dragway | (IHRA 1/8 Mile), 865 Wilkinson Road, Mooresville, NC 28115 | 704-663-4685 | mooresvilledragway.com |
| Piedmont Dragway | (IHRA 1/8 Mile), 6750 Holts Store Road, Julian, NC 27283 | 336-449-7411 | piedmontdragway.com |
| Rockingham Dragway | (IHRA ¼ Mile), 2153 US Hwy 1 North, Rockingham, NC 28379 | 910-582-3400 | rockinghamdragway.com |
| Roxboro Motorsports | (IHRA 1/8 Mile), 1452 Thomas Store Road, Timberlake, NC 27583 | 336-364-3724 | roxboromotorsports.com |
| Virginia Motorsports | (NHRA ¼ mile), 8018 Boynton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803 | 804-862-3174 | virginiamotorsports.com |
| Zmax Dragway | (NHRA ¼ mile), 5555 Concord Pkwy. South, Concord, NC 28027 | 1-800-455-3267 | charlottemotorspeedway.com |

OLD MAGAZINES & BLUE JEANS

If you have **old jeans and/or auto magazines (magazines suitable for our troops to read)**, please bring them to the monthly meetings. Thanks youMike Schneider

Classics at the Capital:



Pontiac's ultimate Grand Prix was the Hurst SSJ

Story Jim Black - June 20, 2011 09:00 AM





Image 1 of 4

From the beginning, Pontiac's Grand Prix was marketed as a personal luxury car, combining the best of luxury and performance into one while competing in the marketplace with the likes of the Chevy Monte Carlo, Buick Riviera and Chrysler 300.

The best ones were the limited production Hurst-equipped SSJ models, built for just three years (1970 through 1972).

All Hurst SSJ Grand Prix models were factory-built, then shipped to Hurst Performance Research in Southfield, Michigan, for conversion into the special "Hurst equipped" SSJ. These limited production cars had special gold paint and badges with several performance, luxury and wheel options that set each apart. In 1970, they were factory painted in Polar White or Starlight Black. In 1971, they came in either Cameo White or Starlight Black. In 1972, a few other color choices were available. After arrival at the Hurst facility, the unique Firefrost Gold paint and accents were added that set these cars apart from other Grand Prix.

Production of the Hurst SSJ Grand Prix was limited to only 489 units for the entire three-year run, with 272 in 1970, 157 in 1971, and just 60 units in 1972. Production was low primarily due to the high cost per unit conversion. The Pontiac Division did little to promote the car, leaving dealers to handle their own advertising. This low production has made the Hurst-equipped Grand Prix SSJ a valued collectible today.

"The first time I saw one of these cars was back in the early '90s when I came across one for sale in Topeka, Kansas," Larry Kosek said. "The owner had no idea what the car was worth and he wouldn't even entertain an offer, instead, just testing the waters, I guess." Kosek, a resident of Silver Lake, Kansas, decided to just keep tabs on the car and eventually the opportunity to buy it might come again. "A few years later, the owner passed away and left the car to a brother, but he wouldn't sell either," Kosek said. "Eventually that brother died also, leaving the car to yet another brother, Cal Cohen."

In 2003, Kosek's persistence finally paid off and he was able to negotiate and purchase the car for just \$1,200. "Bernice and I were making a shopping trip into Topeka and decided to check again and see if the SSJ was still at the same Ramada Inn owned by the Cohen family. The car had been moved to the backside of the motel in an outside parking lot and for sale this time," Kosek said. "The right front fender had been backed into, but other than that, the car appeared to be in restorable condition. After replacing a dead battery, airing the tires, and adding some fresh gas, we drove it home that same evening."

Within a few months of purchase. Kosek started the restoration process by turning the car over to Gary Weakland and Larry Flinn of Lakeside Marine in Topeka, Kansas. They made the necessary sheetmetal repairs, including the damaged front fender and then re-sprayed the car in the correct Cameo White with Firefrost Gold accents. With the body and paint work completed, Kosek sent the car over to Gary Scarlett, who installed the new interior, headliner, and vinyl top.

After leaving the Hurst Performance facility, Larry and Bernice's Hurst SSJ was originally delivered to Dale Sharp Pontiac in Topeka, Kansas, and it came equipped with air conditioning, power steering, power brakes, AM-FM stereo radio, cruise control, electric windows, power door locks, tilt wheel, rally steering wheel, Cordova vinyl top, sun roof, American 200S wheels, and the L78 400 cubic inch V-8 (a 455 was optional).

The "numbers-matching" L78 V-8 was topped with a four-barrel Rochester Q-jet carburetor. The 400 had a bore and stroke of 4.12 x 3.75 inches with an 8.2:1 compression ratio, and was rated at 300 hp at 4,800 rpm and 400 lbs-ft of torque at 3,600 rpm. It was of the cast iron alloy and 90-degree overhead valve type. To allow the engine to breathe better and run cooler, Kosek added a 2½-inch mandrel bent exhaust with Dynomax mufflers and an aluminum radiator. The engine is also bolted to a Turbo 400 transmission and the power makes its way to the rear wheels via an open 2.78:1 rear differential.

"Since its completion in 2009, we've only had the SSJ to a few shows including the Pontiac-GMC-Oakland show in Omaha, Nebraska, where it took 'Best in Class' and 'Best of Show' honors, and we returned to the 'Winner's Circle' in 2010," says Kosek. "In checking the production numbers some time ago, Hurst only made 157 SSJs in 1971, so this one will be a keeper for a long time."

Hurst SSJ Fast Facts

- Three year production: 1970-1972
- Total production: only 482 units
- All cars were factory built Grand Prix model Js
- All cars were built in the Pontiac, Michigan, factory
- Sent to Hurst Performance Research for conversion to SSJs
- Cost of the standard conversion in 1970 was \$1,147.25
- Several colors were available but all had Firefrost Gold

accents and Hurst badges

- SSJs could be equipped with either the 400 or 455 cubic inch V-8

AACA Museum Offers Collector Fair Matchbox Items Enhance the Full Size Displays



The Diecast Toy Exchange is hosting a Matchbox Collector's show at the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum (AACA) on Sunday, September 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will allow visitors to add to or begin a Matchbox collection as all cars will be for sale. Vendors will be showcasing toy cars from the entire history of Matchbox -- from the first car in the 1950's all the way through present day vehicles. To support this event, the AACA Museum is offering \$5.00 admission (half the normal admission price) to encourage visitors to attend this one-day show.

This Matchbox toy show is a top notch collector's event. More than 40 of the best Matchbox dealers from the East Coast will be on hand with a half a million dollars of cars for visitors and enthusiasts to enjoy. Among the cars for sale will be a special limited edition Model A Hot Rod specifically decorated for this show and limited to 72 pieces. For those extremely eager collectors, an early admission plan to visit the vendor booths will be available from 7-9 a.m. for \$20 per person. First time visitors and returning guests will be able to enjoy more than 100 full size antique cars, buses and motorcycles while at the AACA Museum. The current featured exhibit is Leading the Pack: 100 years of Indy Pace and Race cars celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Indianapolis 500.

The Antique Auto Museum at Hershey, a member of the Smithsonian Institute Affiliations Program, displays beautifully restored automobiles, buses and motorcycles in unique life-like scenes representing the 1900's - 1970's in a cross-country journey from New York to San Francisco. This museum, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, is one of the nation's newest and largest automotive museums. The Museum is located just off Route 39, one mile west of Hersheypark Drive in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

For further information, please call 717-566-7100 or visit www.AACAMuseum.org.

Norwalk, Ohio – Pontiac Nationals

Setting up camp for the weekend with something to drink.



David Hinnant, Dustin Tart, Victor Hazi, Steve Veatch, Jerry Hazi







LAKE ERIE AT SUNSET

