

## Big Chief's Corner

### Seduced By Diversity

Diversity is one of those things that makes us great. Diversity of race, creed, and beliefs have turned America into a country that is teeming with creativity and fresh thinking.

That diversity is well represented in our membership and the cars that they drive.

My favorite Pontiacs have always been the early to late 70's Trans Ams. Those swooping lines and strong motors have always grabbed my attention, and my wallet.

These days my eye is beginning to wander. You see, I've been seduced by my fellow members.

For instance, I look at Cladio Garcia's 1964 LeMans and start dreaming. How would that body style react to a major suspension upgrade and a high winding, aluminum headed, 400 cubic inch mill? Those classic looks and those aggressive looking WS6 wheels have induced this line of thought. Could I build a road racer out of that?

How about that 1968 Ventura that Robin Hood is working on? I could take that car, tub the rear and go for a Pro Street look. Maybe chop the roof and slide it down for a slammed, lead sled look? (I hear Robin gasping in horror now.)

Charles Shirley has a gorgeous 1957 Star Chief and I wouldn't change a thing on it. What would you do if you had a '57 with only 29,000 original miles? But...

I could get a '57 that wasn't a low mileage show car. It could be modified to have an "in the weeds" stance. I would stuff a strong 455 in that engine bay and add a five speed manual transmission for drivability. Then I would add some 17 wheels with low profile tires and the suspension and brakes to back up the statement it would make.

Of course I'd have to make the inside as posh as the most luxurious rides that are out and about these days. Those six way electric seats with lumbar support have won me over. Perhaps we could add a steering column from a late model that would have the stereo controls on the wheel?

Speaking of stereo, we'd have to cram this beast with all the best sound goodies. A multiple disk CD changer would be a given but I might go with a DVD player and build screens into the seat backs for rear seat passengers.

Brian Ray keeps taunting me with that 2000 GTX Grand Prix. What would I change? Not a darned thing. I'd load that car up with my luggage, my favorite CDs, Tammy and just start driving. I can't help but think I'd be somewhere in the Rocky Mountains before I woke up from that dream.

My dreaming aside, we should all feel fortunate. We have a club that is intended to offer a place for all walks of Pontiac enthusiast to gather. Whether you love modified or original, you are welcome here. We want everyone to feel at home.

That said, it's time to write Santa about what I want for Christmas.



APA members gather around the buffet table to load plates with food at the holiday pot-luck dinner.

## Working On a Full Stomach

*It was another full house for the second meeting of the Arkansas Pontiac Association.*

*Members as members took a look at their new digs while digging in to a holiday pot luck dinner.*

The new home appears to be a windfall for the group. The club house has ample parking, plenty of room and a small kitchen off the main room, should we decide to repeat the pot luck dinner theme.

Members supplied food ranging from Jambalya to sweet potato casserole as a holiday feast was assembled. The dinner allowed the membership to become better acquainted with one another.

While members worked on dessert, club President Chris Ritter started the meeting. Minutes were read by club secretary Carla Caples. This was followed by a call for old business.

The first order of business was to officially adopt the club house as the new home for the group. This was followed by nominations for a primary charity to sponsor and a vote for which to sponsor. It was decided that Arkansas Children's Hospital would be the primary charity and that Velma Spradlin would be responsible for contacting them to develop a relationship between the club

and the hospital.

President Ritter gave a report on the status of the web site ([www.arkansaspontiacs.org](http://www.arkansaspontiacs.org)) and newsletter. He requested that additional pictures, tech tips and upcoming events be channeled to him to increase the content.

New business included a set of bylaws that were presented by Ritter to the group. Bylaws had to be adopted before any progress could be made regarding the non-profit status for the group. They were adopted by a unanimous vote.

To satisfy the provisions of the bylaws, three board members were elected. Board members are Chris Ritter, Bryan Blocker and Robin Hood.

An anonymous vote was taken for the events members wanted to see the club sponsor in the coming year. The top vote getters were a car show, cruise ins and some type of racing with drag racing being the most popular choice.

Ritter then presented information regarding a possible partnership with Sherwood Pontiac, a dealership in North Little Rock, regarding a spring car show. After some discussion, it was decided that Ritter should pursue a meeting with the dealership president.

A final item of business was a discussion regarding creating a calendar from photos of member vehicles. No action was taken at this time.

## Poncho Power Flexes Its muscle at CAMs cruise in

It was the Monday following our last meeting when the email came from Stacy Majors. The Classic American Muscle car club's cruise in was to be on the 8th of December, not the 15th as we thought.

ARRRggghh! I'd already told the members to meet at the Sherwood Pontiac dealership at 5:30pm on the 15th. I'd even posted it to the web site. Oh well, time to hit the phone.

The round of phone calls left me wondering if I'd be the only one to attend. It was short notice and with it being the holiday season, well, you know the rest.

Saturday dawned grey and blustery. I kept watching the weather, hoping it would clear and good weather would bring everyone out. It was not to be.

At 5:00pm, I swung by Vice President Bryan Blocker's house and we caravanned out to the dealership.



Archie Williams (left) and Steve Mosely visit during the CAMS cruise in.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered Brian Ray, Jay Woodsen and Archie Williams waiting with Steve

Mosely quick to follow. We had six cars with their families.

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# Recipes from Potluck

## Sweet Potato Casserole

Veronica Palmer

- 3 cups cooked, mashed sweet potatoes
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine

### Topping:

- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans

In a large bowl, combine sweet potatoes, sugar, eggs, vanilla, milk and butter; beat with electric mixer until smooth. Spoon into a greased shallow, 2-quart casserole dish.

To make topping: Combine brown sugar, flour, butter and pecans. Sprinkle over top of sweet potato mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serves 8-10.

## Broccoli & Rice Casserole

Tammy Ritter

- 1 (10 oz.) pkg. frozen broccoli
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 1 & 1/3 cup cooked rice or Minute Rice
- 1 (8 oz.) jar cheese spread
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup

Combine broccoli with onion and cook as directed on broccoli package. Drain. Combine vegetables with remaining ingredients. Pour mixture into greased 2-quart casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

## Texas Sheet Cake

Mary Ann Ray

- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter or oleo
- 2 cup Sugar
- 1 cup water
- 2 cup Flour
- 4 heaping Tbls Cocoa
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 eggs

Combine butter, water & cocoa in quart saucepan. Heat to boil - stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and beat in flour, sugar and salt until smooth. Add sour cream, soda & eggs. Mix. Pour into a greased 15x11 1/2 pan. Bake 375 for 22 minutes. Prepare frosting - spread on cake while hot. Cool cake in pan on rack. Store in refrigerator until ready to serve.

### FROSTING:

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
- 6 Tbls Milk
- 4 Tbls Cocoa
- 1 lb box Powdered Sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup nuts (optional)

Combine butter, milk and cocoa in saucepan. Heat to boil. Stirring frequently until mixture bubbles. Remove from heat - beat in sugar, vanilla and nuts.

### Poncho...

It was a quick drive down to the first Sonic drive in. Our club was the first to arrive and eyes lit up when that assortment of Pontiac iron rolled up on the lot.

Shortly after the main contingent arrived, we were joined by Wayne and Stacy Majors, Claudio Garcia and

Geoffrey Schwark. The Poncho content was now up to 8 cars and more members than I d hoped for. It was beginning to look like we d out number the hosting club.

Despite the frigid temperatures, hot chocolate and hot coffee kept the conversation rolling. Most attending at the first Sonic cruised to the second

Sonic at the other end of Kiehl Avenue.

Only one street race was noted by the attending members. It seems a late model Grand Prix dusted a vintage Fbody on Kiehl Avenue in route to the second Sonic.

Word is that the vintage poncho is looking for revenge when the time presents itself.

## Feature Poncho - Geoffrey Schwark s 1966 GTO



GTO Montana Machine  
Four speed - Muncie M21  
389 @ .060 overbore, balanced assembly  
750cfm Edelbrock carburetor



Roller tip rockers  
Edelbrock Performer intake  
3:73 gears - limited slip rear end  
2.5 inch exhaust with 3 chamber Flowmaster mufflers

# Recipes from Potluck

## Green Bean Casserole

Laura Blocker

- 2 Cans French Style Green Beans
- 1/2 Cup Chopped Onion
- 1 Can Cream of Chicken Soup
- 1/4 Cup Chopped Pimento
- 8 oz. (12 Slices) American Cheese
- 2 Cups Bread Crumbs OR Fried Onions
- 10 Strips Bacon - Crisply Cooked

Place 1 can of beans in bottom or casserole dish. Sprinkle with 1/2 of the onion and pimento. Cover with 1/2 of the cheese. Place 1/2 can of soup on top of cheese and repeat layers. Bake for 20 to 30 minutes at 400 degrees. Top with bread crumbs/onions and bacon and brown lightly.

## Our next meeting will be on Sunday, January 20, 2002.

The meeting will begin at 1:00pm. It is very important that all members attend. We will be discussing our spring car show and making decisions regarding how that event will be organized. We need your input and help.

# SALE OR TRADE

## CARS.....

1972 LeMans. Over \$10,000 invested but will sacrifice for \$7,500. Dealer paperwork comes with it. Very nice car. Call Shane Shelton at fbodyman@iwon.com or call 501-315-3881.

## PARTS.....

70 GTO: idiot lights/140 mph speedo cluster \$50, pair of hood hinges \$20, non-working clock \$10. 65 GTO: auto console with lid \$60. Brian Ray at (501)843-0960 or raybs@jpa.net.

455 short block. 1973 date code. Standard bore, standard crank. Slight ridge at the top of cylinder. Includes oil pan and damaged, but repairable windage tray. \$425.00, OBO. Chris Ritter - 501-803-9219

Header panel for 1974 Trans Am. Refinished and ready for final prep work/paint. \$125.00, OBO. Chris Ritter - 501-803-9219

1969 GTO standard differential. Code WC. 2.78 gears. Solid housing with good 28 spline axles. \$100.00. Call Bryan Blocker at 501-529-8020.

Set of 7M5 and 4X, 455 heads. \$50 for each pair. Call Bryan Blocker at 501-529-8020..

## WANTED.....

Dr. GasX crossover for three inch exhaust system. Needs flanges for 3.5 Hooker header exhaust system. Call Chris Ritter - 501-803-9219