

Big Chief's Corner

ROLL CALL

If you're thinking about it, now is the time to join

Six months. One half of a year. I have to say it. We've come a long way in a very short time.

Roughly six months ago we founded the Arkansas Pontiac Association. I had no idea if this club would work out when I placed that ad in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Since then the members have come in numbers I wouldn't have expected and I'm grateful to each of them.

For the record, we have 38 members on roster. Most of those have paid their dues. Those who haven't, this is your notice. We'd love to have you in the club and really want to share our passion for the hobby.

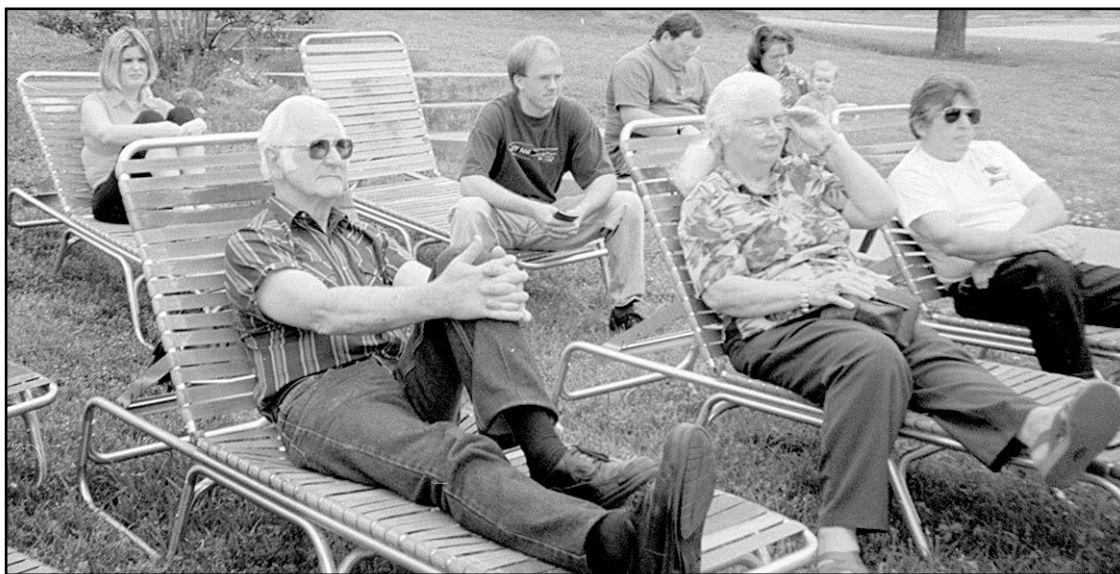
We've reached the point in organizing this group that the fun is starting. For instance, next month's meeting will be held at a park where you can bring the family. We will meet at our normal time of 1:00pm and bring your appetite. Burger and hot dogs will be on the grill and we'll picnic before our meeting.

The fun won't stop there. After our meeting we plan to drive over the Sonic drive in for a cruise in that will be open to all cars. Who knows, we might run the poker run again if we have enough interest.

The cruise in will be a monthly event through the summer months. The members agree that it's more fun than our boring meetings at the club house. We'll meet every third Sunday of the month at 1:00pm at the Maumelle Sonic. We can take care of business there prior to the public joining us for some bench racing and socializing.

If your taste runs more to the high speed end of the hobby, don't despair. We haven't set a firm date yet but more than one member has mentioned that another race day would be fun. Besides, Tammy and I have a grudge match to settle at the dragstrip. She doesn't stand a chance and you can tell her I said so.

The latest and greatest idea to come from the group is the Poncho Power Tour. The idea is to take a weekend drive through some part of the state. Chances



Club members improvised with poolside chase lounges when it was discovered all the folding chairs had been removed from the club house.

Show Plans Move Ahead

The April meeting was sparsely attended but a great deal was accomplished.

The treasurer's report was delivered by Dusty Palmer. With the addition of a sponsor and dues paid by several new members the balance in the club treasury now stands at \$677.00.

Velma Spradlin reported that she expects Crain Automotive of Conway to sign on as a gold level sponsor soon. Club president, Chris Ritter, will contact them for web site information when the check arrives.

Planning for the October car was next on the agenda. Ritter has not received confirmation from the Maumelle parks officials on the site but all indications are that it will not be a problem.

It was agreed that we will have a 100 point judging system and that club members will do the judging. Velma Spradling and Mary Ann Ray will be checking on trophies. Ritter will be working up a list of trophy classes and developing promotion materials. Velma will also be checking on entertainment possibilities. All agreed that, even though the show will be open to all makes, we will have Pontiac specific trophies to award.

Mary Ann had finished research into shirts for the club. A firm in Kentucky had the best price for shirts with contrasting collar and sleeve bands. The cost is \$15.00 per shirt. This is only the shirt cost.

For full information regarding these shirts, see the story below.

The proposed Poncho Power Tour was the next item. Members agreed that it was a very good idea for a club event. Ritter will start looking into possible dates and routes for this event.

As discussed at the March meeting, future meetings will be held prior to a cruise in through the summer months. This cruise in will be at the Maumelle Sonic Drive In, the third Sunday of every month.

Ritter proposed that the club meet Sunday, May 19th at the Lake Willastein park at 1:00pm for a cookout prior to the cruise in. Members agreed that this would be a good idea. Ritter will be in charge of cooking hamburgers and hot dogs. Other members are asked to contact him at 501-803-9219 to sign up for other food items.

Ritter then asked that all members planning on attending the Pontiac Southern Nationals show in Dallas, May 31, June 1 & 2, contact him to let him know if you're going. Those who haven't registered for that show or made room reservations are encouraged to do so. Information is available via the internet at www.pontiacsouthernnationals.com.

A new APA website feature was announced by Ritter. The club now has access to a BBS system on the web site. This system allows users to post messages and others to respond to them. This tool can be used for any topic of interest to the club.

Shirts With Club Logo Available

The wheels are turning for the production of our first club shirt. It will feature contrasting "racing" checker collar and sleeve bands and will be a light grey color.

Cost for the shirts will depend on the logo arrangement and size. The first step towards getting our shirts made will be to order the shirts, prior to the embroidery step.

Those interested in having a club shirt should contact Mary Ann Ray at 501-843-0960 or email her at raybs@ipa.net. She will collect \$15.00 for each shirt ordered. Don't forget to know your size and be





Jami & Frankie Rider II's 1988 GTA



- * 51,000 original miles
- * Bought new 09/23/88, Premier Pontiac/Nissan - LR
- * Last '88 GTA in Arkansas when I bought it
- * 5.7L TPI V8 - 700R4
- * All GTA standard equipment, plus factory UQ7 subwoofer speaker system
- * Hotchkis strut tower brace

- * ACCEL/Lingenfelter Performance Engineering Ported Plenum
- * ACCEL/LPE 58 mm Throttle Body
- * ACCEL/LPE Large Tube TPI Intake Runners
- * SLP Cold Air Induction kit w/ K&N Filtercharger
- * Hypertech Power Chip, Cooling Fan Switch, and 160-degree Thermostat
- * Flowmaster Force II Cat-Back Exhaust

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are it will be the northwest quadrant where the best scenery is located. I'm hoping we can get

other car clubs involved in this. Can't you just see a line of 100 or more classic cars winding through some scenic Ozark two lane highway? Honey, get my

medication! My heart is pounding again!

I hope I've given you enough reasons to join our club. The dues are not very expensive. A family membership is only \$25.00 and an individual can join our group for \$20.00. That's a bargain for the information and entertainment value the club brings to you.

This brings me to the point of the column. If you haven't paid your dues, this will be your last newsletter. It's not that I don't want to keep sending them to anyone who might be interested in the goings on of the Arkansas Pontiac Association. I'd love to keep them coming BUT, we can't afford to do that. Paper, printing, envelopes and postage cost money. It's simple economics. We have to pay the bills.

If I've managed to make my point, and I sincerely hope that I have, I would ask that you send your dues to me or to Dusty Palmer, our Treasurer, before next month's meeting. Make all checks payable to the Arkansas Pontiac Association.

Chris Ritter
18 Turquoise Dr.
Maumelle, AR
72113

Dusty Palmer
29 High Trails Dr.
Maumelle, AR
72113

President's Note:

Attendance is not a requirement for club membership but we do encourage members to attend and participate in the planning for our events that go on during these meetings. Besides, we miss seeing our Poncho friends. Please come join us for the picnic and Cruise In this month.

Shirts- continued from 1

ready to tell her how you want the logo displayed.

There are two setups for the shirts. The first is to have the logo on the breast of the shirt. The cost for the embroidery will add \$6.00 per shirt if we exceed a 12 shirt order, which we expect to do. Total cost for this package would then come to \$21.00 plus tax.

The second setup is to have a large APA logo on the back of the shirt with "Arkansas Pontiac Association" in lettering on the breast. The additional cost for this design will be \$22.50 (+12 units) for a total cost of \$37.50 per shirt.

Once we place an order for the shirts we are looking at 7-10 days for delivery. Those shirts will then be delivered to Fancy Stitches in Sherwood where the embroidery will be done.

When shirts are delivered to the members they will be required to pay Chris Ritter the balance. He will be paying the embroidery cost out of his personal money so members are encouraged to be prompt in repaying him when the shirts are ready.

Mark Your Calendar

May 19th

Regular Meeting - Arkansas Pontiac Association
1:00 PM

Lake Willastein - Maumelle -Picnic/Cruise in to follow - Contact Chris Ritter if you are coming to the picnic. 501-803-9219 or critter@arkansaspontiacs.org

May 3rd and 4th
Cotton Classic Car Club
Interstate 55, Exit 67
Blytheville, AR

Chamber of Commerce - 870-762-2012

May 5th

Toadsuck Car Club Show
Conway, AR
501-679-2391 or 501-514-1475

May 11th

Vilonia Vintage Car Show
Vilonia High School
501-851-6060

Friday, May 31st thru Sunday, June 2nd
Pontiac Southern Nationals
Dallas Area Pontiac Association
www.pontiacsouthernationals.com
972-618-0700