

Searching For Another Home

APA meets at local apartment complex, looks for permanent location

The APA meetings are beginning to play like the Willie Nelson song, "On the road again". Members had to navigate to another new meeting place, the Valley Heights apartment complex off Cantrell Road in Little Rock.

Minutes from the July meeting were read by Tammy Ritter and Dusty Palmer reported that the treasury has an \$888.36 balance.

Brian Ray reported that he had finished his research into cost for trophies. The estimated cost for plaques and two best of show trophies was just over \$500.00. This did not include dash plaques which would cost an additional \$2.25 each. Chris Ritter asked that the club not commit to these trophies until he checked on a new process of sandblasted wood trophies that could be done with the club's logo. It has subsequently been decided that we will use the sandblasted wood trophies although they are slightly more expensive.



Sample sandblasted wood

Ed Helmstetter reported that the AeroSpace Education Center, located near the Little Rock airport was willing to donate a door prize and that they might have a meeting room available for the group. Ritter is checking into the room for future meetings.

Wayne and Stacy Major had collected multiple door prizes for the show. Stacy also reported that Blue Bunny Ice Cream will be at the show to give away free samples to the public. Ritter is collecting the prizes and goody bag items at his home. Anyone with additional items should bring them to the meeting or arrange to bring them to him.

Ritter then announced jobs that he had assigned to club members for the car show. Those assignments might be changed to accommodate the needs on the day of the show, he said. A plea was made by Ritter



Tammy Ritter (left) keeps minutes while Brian Ray (center) delivers a report on trophies for the show. Looking on are Stacy Major and Eric Ray.

for more prizes and goody bag items.

Other items needed for the show, according to Ritter, include tables, awnings, golf carts, parking cones and portable two-way radios. Several members offered two way radios and were asked to bring those to the next meeting to see if they work on the same frequency. Archie Williams will be providing an additional table. Ritter will be seeking the other items.

Ritter reported that he had done some research into dates for the Poncho Power Cruise. Due to other major festivals, the third weekend of October appears to be the best possible date for lodgings in the Eureka Springs area. Ritter will report back at the next meeting with hotels that are available.

Members were also reminded of the Cruise For the Cure on September 21st. The Arkansas Pontiac Association is committed to provide ten members to help with the event. Those members who volunteered are asked to contact Ritter.

The final item of business was to decide how to finish the year financially. It was decided that dues would be collected in January and when the deposit was ready, a zero balance would be pulled for the surplus money from 2002. At that time the club will donate the surplus funds to Children's Hospital.

Big Chief's Corner

October 5 is D-Day

The time draws near for our car show. It's our first show as a club so I think I should pen a few words about what to expect. The only problem is that I don't know what to expect.

This is virgin ground for all of us. Most of us have attended shows and many have worked for a car club presenting a show in the past. This is good groundwork. However, I don't think this prepares us for what's ahead.

That's why I'm making this impassioned plea for all members to be there on October 5. I'm hoping we can overcome our inexperience with sheer manpower.

The work in preparation for the show will require my calling on many of you. We need to do a hundred small tasks to make this a seamless and pleasant experience for those attending. Expect your phone to ring.

We have begun to gather door prizes and goody bag items but we still need more.

I desperately need items for the bags. If you ask for that type of donation, try to get 100 units of whatever they can donate for bags.

We do intend to have children's games. Prizes for this don't have to be big but we'd like to have plenty for all the children. Balloons, soap bubble blowers, jump ropes, etc. all make good prizes. Anyone willing to help?

I've begun making a list of assigned tasks for the day. I'll be contacting each of you regarding the job I'd like you to fill. Please let me know if you don't feel you can fulfill that duty and I'll assign another.

We will all have to be flexible on the jobs we are assigned to. If parking needs more manpower I will ask someone working another task to move over temporarily to help. We might have to shift manpower to meet the need based on the time it is needed.

Expect to arrive early for the day of the show. We need to have our plan in place before folks arrive. There will be a lot of set up. Signs will have to be posted, tables and awnings placed for registration and door prize awards.

Club shirts are a must. We want to be wearing those so our guests know who to ask when they have a question.

This brings me to my final point. We have to wear a smile, no matter what. I don't care how badly someone behaves, we should put on our Sunday best manners for those who attend. We don't want them to leave with the wrong impression. If problems arise, bring it to me. I'll deal with those who might be unhappy.

I hope you all are looking forward to this day. I know I am. This is our chance to let everyone know we are a great car club and great people. Let's do it right.

Cruise Night Biggest Ever For APA

The monthly cruise in at the Maumelle Sonic Drive In for August was a resounding success. An estimated 40 cars, our biggest turnout ever, dropped in to visit.

The time for the monthly meeting and cruise were changed to the evening hours to avoid the heat of the day. Cars began arriving at the Sonic at 6:30 p.m. and all the spaces were filled with classics, muscle cars and roadsters by 7:00 p.m.

The show eventually overflowed the Sonic parking area. Some of the late arrivals parked in adjacent parking lots. Chris Ritter will be contacting those businesses to confirm that we can use those lots in the future as the turnout continues to grow.

The highlight of the event was the non-member Pontiacs that turned up and the addition of five new members to our ranks. It was amazing to



A vintage Thunderbird prowls the Sonic Drive In looking for a slot to park during the cruise in.

see that many Pontiacs crowding out the Chevy, Ford and Mopar marques.

Several of those Pontiac owners stepped up and joined the club. New members are Tony and Kamong Riddick, Daniel Sullivan, Rob and Tanarah Haynie, Bill May Sr. and Ken Trantham.

The September 15 meeting will not be followed by a cruise in. We will be trying to focus on the October car show during that meeting. We will also discuss the Poncho Power tour at that meeting. Plan to attend.

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Members Travel To Trans Am Nationals

The 18th annual Trans Am Nationals took place in Vandalia, Ohio on August 23-25. This is the largest gathering of Firebirds and Trans Ams in the country with an announced 571 cars registered this year.

APA members attending were Chris and Tammy Ritter; Bryan and Laura Blocker and Frankie and Jamie Rider.

The event included a swap meet, drag racing, a cruise in at a nearby suburb and the show.

Cars that were shown by the group included David Templeton's 1973 Trans Am, Bryan Blocker's 1973 Trans Am, Frankie Rider's 1987 GTA and Chris Ritter's 1974 Super Duty Trans Am.

None of the club cars participat-

ed in drag racing but all of them attended the cruise in and show.

The members wore their club shirts on Sunday and were frequently stopped by participants

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CRUISING.....

.....CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



SALE OR TRADE

CARS.....

1977 Can Am project car. Is running but needs full restoration. Original drive train. Some rust. Rear spoiler not on car but is with it. Some extra parts. Call Tim Howard (501) - 732 - 7448

PARTS.....

Doug Nash tunnel ram intake. Two four barrels. In good condition. Make that race car look as good as it goes. Asking \$600.00 Contact John Ramey - (501) - 397 - 7545

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.

PARTS.....

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

Complete set of five, 15X7 rally wheels off a 1977 Grand Prix. Trim rings and center caps included. \$100.00. Contact Claudio Garcia at 501-843-0731

1971 date code, #96 heads. Good condition. \$200.00. Bryan Blocker - 501-529-8020

Edelbrock Torker II aluminum intake. Barely used. Unported but water crossover has been separated. \$180.00 Bryan Blocker - 501-529-8020

Full length windage tray. \$40.00 Bryan Blocker - 501-529-8020

Bare subframe for first generation F-body. Good condition. \$150.00 Bryan Blocker - 501-529-8020

The parking spots (top) at the Sonic Drive In were packed. The tables out front (above, left) were just as busy as car owners and families visited, snacked and had a good time. Two of many Pontiacs that showed up included Daniel Sullivan's 1994, 25th Anniversary Trans Am (above, center) and Ken Trantham's 1967 OHC Sprint Six Firebird (above, right). Both are new members.

Mark Your Calendar 🍎🍌

September 14th

Home Depot/Tony Stewart NASCAR display

9:00 a.m at the West Little Rock Home Depot

They are doing a promotion with the Tony Stewart race car and asked for some Pontiacs from the club to join them.

Contact Chris Ritter.

September 15th

Regular APA Meeting - 1:00 p.m.

Valley Heights Apartments - See back page for instructions.

September 19th

River Market Cruise In

River Market District - Downtown Little Rock

6 - 8 p.m. but folks start arriving by 5 p.m.

There was a big turn out last month. There were a bunch of nice cars and friendly folks. It's a nice way to spend an evening.

September 21st

Cruise For The Cure - River Front - North Little Rock

We are committed to providing 10 people to help with this event. I need volunteers. Contact Chris Ritter at critter@ardemgaz.com or 501-803-9219

September 28th & 29th

50's Bash - Conway

Jerry Spradlin says this is a big event. Lots of cars, music, events and a \$1000.00 Poker Run.

<http://arkphoto.com/bash/index.html> - 501-327-7788

YOUR ADS WANTED!

If you are a member of the Arkansas Pontiac Association and have cars or parts to trade or sell, let an officer know. These ads are a service to our members.

Arkansas Pontiac Association Membership

We added some new members and I've made corrections. Keep it handy to contact fellow members.

• Eddie Anderson	16817 Raines Rd.	Little Rock	AR 72210	501-455-3515
• Bryan Blocker	118 Mirimar	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-0612
• John Brooks	171 Tower Loop	Lonoke	AR 72086	501-676-2725
• Paul Crutchfield	343 Highway 291 North	Prattville	AR 72129	870-699-4425
• Marvin Dunnahoo	2044 Horseshoe Loop Rd.	Little Rock	AR 72206	501-888-8084
• Claudio Garcia	251 Deer Acres	Cabot	AR 72023	501-843-0731
• Richard Griggers	1401 Right of Way Rd.	Augusta	AR 72006	
• Bryan Hartje	87 Pine Valley Drive	Conway	AR 72032	501-470-1843
• Rob Haynie	8201 Leatrice Dr.	Little Rock	AR 72227	501-223-0420
• Ed Helmstetter	715 Trevino Drive	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-8370
• Ken Hodge	518 Cherry Ave.	Sherwood	AR 72102	501-833-8886
• Robin Hood	303 N. Rhoads #23	West Memphis	AR 72301	870-761-5699
• James Ireland	7810 Preston Dr.	Little Rock	AR 72209	501-565-1602
• Dan Joslin	7 St. Thomas Drive	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-1544
• Wayne Major	3900 North Cedar	North Little Rock	AR 72116	501-758-5840
• James Matchett	25 Blackstone Circle	North Little Rock	AR 72118	501-753-6108
• Bill May Sr.	106 Elmwood	Sherwood	AR 72120	501-831-0509
• Vance Morgan	720 Carter Drive	Marion	AR 72364	870-732-6101
• Steve Mosely	16 Riverwood Place	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-4407
• Dusty Palmer	29 High Trails Dr.	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-6191
• John Ramey	P.O. Box 276	Wrightsville	AR 72183	501-397-7545
• Brian Ray	13 Shenadoah Cove	Cabot	AR 72023	501-843-0960
• Bruce Rhoads	9 Par Drive #10	Little Rock	AR 72210	501-455-9706
• Tony Riddick	15015 Claude Dr.	Little Rock	AR 72206	501-888-3096
• Frankie Rider II	399 Tower Road	Locust Grove	AR 72550	870-668-3724
• Chris Ritter	18 Turquoise Dr.	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-803-9219
• Marty Ritter	5310 Prospect Rd.	Jonesboro	AR 72401	501-933-7428
• Geoffrey Schwark	450 Deer Creek	Cabot	AR 72023	501-941-2834
• Shane Shelton	1820 Eagle Point Way	Benton	AR 72015	501-315-3881
• Charles Shirley	117 S. Poplar	Marianna	AR 72306	870-295-3950
• Jerry Spradlin	2802 College Ave.	Conway	AR 72032	501-329-5519
• Daniel Sullivan	522 Ray Young Rd.	Carlisle	AR 72024	501-920-8950
• David Templeton	114 Mirimar Dr.	Maumelle	AR 72113	501-851-0891
• Ken Trantham	350 Cagle Rock Circle	Russellville	AR 72802	479-968-8849
• Archie Williams	9725 Cochrane St.	Mabelvale	AR 72103	501-455-1721
• Jay Woodson	118 Oregon Ave	Jacksonville	AR 72076	501-983-1927

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who commented on how much they liked the shirt's design. Others commented that they didn't know Arkansas had a Pontiac car club. They do now.

None of our club members came home with a trophy. That was a disappointment because we all felt that David Templeton's car had a chance. Unfortunately, it was not to be. We'll get them next time.



The 1974 Super Duty Trans Am that was used in a Cannonball in the 70's was on display. It was featured in a Car & Driver article at the time of the run.



Frankie Rider II brought his GTA to display (above). A look at a set of rare Hurst wheels (left) that were on and equally rare 1969 Trans Am (left). The sign and a 1969 Trans Am (below) says it all. The largest gathering of Firebirds in the world.



Chris Ritter's 1974 Super Duty and Bryan Blocker's 1973 Trans Am graced the field in the heavy modified class (left). Many commented on Ritter's car from a recent High Performance Pontiac article and Blocker's from a Pontiac Enthusiast article regarding his Blocker High Velocity Intake System.



WHERE IS THE NEXT MEETING GOING TO BE?

We will be meeting at the Valley Heights complex one more time. Bring your chairs, there aren't many there. It is located at 6900 Cantrell Rd. in Little Rock. The meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. and there will not be a cruise after. The complex is located across the street from SteinMart department store. Take the Cantrell Rd. (Highway 10) East exit off I430. Proceed until you see the store and turn left into the complex. From I30, take the Cantrell Rd. exit and go west. This route will take through central Little Rock so it might be easier just to take the interstate around to I430. See you there!