



# LEGENDARY LINES



March 2023

## 2023 TIGERS on the COLUMBIA - WENATCHEE



### May 26-28

The **largest Pontiac show** on the West Coast will be a weekend full awesome cars, good friends, fun activities and great weather.

#### Events include

Friday – Car Cruise to [Hot Rod Café](#)

Saturday - **THE SHOW** at [Rocky Reach Dam Park](#)

Sunday—Lake Chelan tour or Leavenworth Tour and Sunday night at the [Rail Station & Ale House](#)

More information on the [club website](#) and [page 4](#)

CLUB MEETING—March 4th 6pm in Kent— [Amante Pizza and Pasta](#)

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## MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Revisited

### The President's new car—Written by Bill Nelson

For this month's feature story, I will tell you about my newest automotive acquisition.

As a young man I once owned a 1968 GTO convertible. I have loved GTO's since I was 16 and when I found they came in

convertible form I was hooked!

At the 2016 Nationals in Bellevue, I admired the convertible GTO's that were in attendance. A muscle car combined with a convertible to me is the perfect storm! I had to have one. [Continued on page 6](#)



[www.northwestlegends.com](http://www.northwestlegends.com)

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



## *The President's Pen - By Bill Nelson*



Hello Legends members,

I hope all of you are doing well out there.  
It's time to get those summer projects in gear!

I wish to thank everyone who has renewed their memberships and kept our club as the largest chapter in the world. Your support means a lot to all of us as a group. Remember we're all part of a family who's associated by one of the greatest cars of all time!

We tried out a new meeting place at Amanté's Pizza in Kent for our January and February meeting. More members attended our meeting than usual filling up the room and making things a little crowded. It was great to see everyone!

I'd like to thank the car show committee and especially Wally for their diligent work on Tigers of the Columbia for this year. Also, thanks to Lonnie the website is up and running for registrations.

**Remember Tigers on the Columbia is moving to Wenatchee this year so make your plans now to attend.**

Thanks again to all our great members out there.

Sincerely, Bill Nelson president Northwest GTO Legends.



## 2023 NW GTO Legends Sanctioned Events

June 25th - 9th Annual NW American Muscle Car Show - Tacoma-Griots Garage

August 6th - 35th Annual Northwest Muscle Car Meet - Issaquah - XXX Drive-in

August 19th - Ted and Jacque Knapp Hosted Barbeque - Gig Harbor

December - Club Christmas Party - Enumclaw - Thunder Dome Car Museum

## Club Officers

### PRESIDENT

Bill Nelson

### SECRETARY

Bob Stevenson

### TREASURER

Tom Willett (Julio)

### Vice President

Gary Tischer

### CAR SHOW CHAIRMAN

Ted Knapp

### AT LARGE

Steve Martin

### 44th Annual GTOAA Nationals

Springfield, Illinois

6/27/2023 - 7/1/2023

More information

<https://www.gtoaa.org/2023-gto-nationals>





## 2023 Tiger on the Columbia – Wenatchee

Dear Club Members,

We have made great plans for this year's Tigers on the Columbia event. It will be held in Wenatchee, WA during the Memorial Day holidays, on **May 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>**. We want our Pontiac Nation folks in the Pacific NW to plan their 3-day Spring Vacation around Tigers this year because there is a lot to see and do in Wenatchee. On Friday registration check-in will take place at the Wenatchee Convention Center. On Friday night we have planned a car cruise to the famous Hot Rod Café. On Saturday, we will hold our All-Pontiac Car Show at the Rocky Reach Dam Park, followed by the Award/Banquet in the Ballroom of the Wenatchee Convention Center. On Sunday we have a tour of Lake Chelan, with lunch at the Stehekins Lodge, a tour of Leavenworth with lunch at Gustav's, and later that night, dinner reservations at the Rail Station & Ale House.

Our goal this year is to get over 100 cars to this event. Our Club has 123 active members (the largest GTOAA Chapter in the World), so our challenge to our club members is to get at least 50% of you to turn out for the Tigers on the Columbia – Wenatchee event.

So, put us on your calendar, and go to our Club Website ([www.northwestlegends.com](http://www.northwestlegends.com)), where you can register online, make your hotel reservations, purchase your boat tickets if you are going on the Lake Chelan tour, and you will be set for a "good time, with good friends, good cars, and good things to see and do, at the Apple Capital of America".

Wally Santella/Ted Knapp/Jim Braden  
Your Event Coordination Team







## 2023 Tiger on the Columbia – Wenatchee - Activities

Dear Club Members,

We have planned some exciting and interesting activities to support your enjoyment at this year's Tigers on the Columbia in Wenatchee. Attached, are descriptions of each of these, which occur on Friday night (Friday Night Hot Rod Café Car Cruise), Sunday (Lake Chelan Tour @ Leavenworth Tour), and Sunday Night (Dinner Reservations at the Rail Station & Alehouse). Please consider these before you register for this year's Tiger event. Indicate, on your event registration, how many of your party are planning to participate (for our planning process). There are no Club fees, the Link Transit Bus Service is free, so any charges will be between you and the activity host (restaurants, lodges, Chelan LOL ferry tickets, shops, etc.).

PS: Oh yes, we added an attachment of our 2023 Tigers Event T-Shirt – it's cool in navy blue and the graphics are great! One more thing, **we have challenged our Club Members to get 50% of you (61)** to support this year's Tigers event. To-date, **we have 10 Club Members registered**, with 51 more to go! See you in Wenatchee, in May!

Sincerely,

Your Event Coordination Team  
Ted Knapp/Jim Braden/Wally Santella



Later on, that year I purchased a 66 GTO convertible that I still own. It was a lot of work to get that car put together and it is still not finished. It runs and drives now, and I've enjoyed many thousands of miles behind the wheel. I really love that car. My heart and soul are in its construction and rebirth.

But I have always had my eye on a 65 GTO to go with it. I really like the lines of a 65 and the fact that the key is on the left side of the steering wheel along with the more square and seemingly smaller body made it attractive. And of course, it would have to come in convertible form.

Casually looking through ads for 65 GTO's for sale on Facebook as they pop up would occasionally spark my interest, but the prices they were asking for these cars were certainly beyond my means right now.

Around Thanksgiving last year an ad popped up that caught my eye. A red 65 GTO convertible was posted for sale. A seemingly solid California car, it was a non-running project and at a price I could afford.

This car was an original Monaro Red 1965 GTO convertible. It features black interior with a white convertible top. Options included Tri-power, automatic transmission, air conditioning, power seat, console, and tinted windows. The Tri-power intake manifold was however missing and replaced with the four barrels.

I made casual conversation with the seller of the car who later contacted me. The ad placed on Facebook was quickly withdrawn after people's comments about the car were not to the owner's liking. In fact, they were not even about the car!

So, there were several people interested in purchasing the car but ultimately the owner chose me to have it. He patiently waited while I refinanced my house and got a little bit of money to buy it and fix it up.





# LEGENDARY LINES



In January I flew down to Boulder City, Nevada to check out the car in person. The car was everything the owner had described to me. It had a little bit of rust in the floors to be repaired and a little more in the trunk, but nothing compared with what I faced on my 66 convertible. The car would run with a little gas in the carburetor but a horrible knocking sound so shutting it off seemed wise. The car had mostly original paint and was quite straight and rust free on the exterior. I placed the deposit on the car and headed back home.



In February I called upon my friend and fellow club member Steve Martin to help me go and pick up this car. The seller agreed to meet me in Wells, Nevada to make the exchange.

We kind of hurriedly got ourselves together to go pick up the car ahead of an impending snowstorm in the area. Even though my home loan had been approved and was moving through the processes and I was assured any day it would fund, I still did not have the money to pay for the car just yet. But off to get it we went!

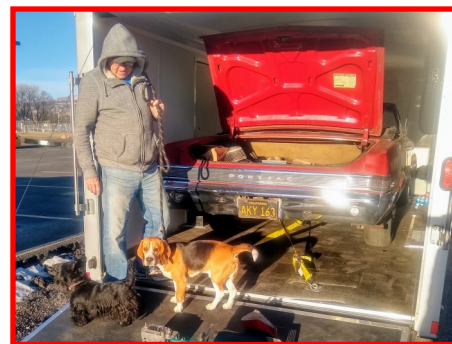
The first day of travel brought us to Burns, Oregon for the night. The next day was nice and sunny and took us across the southeast corner of Oregon into Winnemucca, Nevada.

Once in Nevada we followed interstate 80 across the North end of the state to meet up at Wells to pick up the car. I checked my bank account, and I still did not have any money!

About an hour out of Wells I checked my bank account for the 10th time that day and found that my loan had finally funded! Per my instructions, my credit union instantly transferred a portion of the money to the car's owner.



As we arrived in Wells, we saw the truck with the Red GTO sitting right in front of us. After a quick discussion, the GTO was unloaded from the previous owner's car trailer and we pushed it, with Steve Martin driving it into his car trailer.



# LEGENDARY LINES



We had a pleasant drive home across the open country of Northern Nevada and Southern Oregon arriving back home in Washington a few days ahead of the snowstorm that we had.

Once at home I could explore the GTO more closely. I did eventually get it run a little better and the horrible knocking sound was a stuck lifter. I would work on it a little everyday getting lights to work again and windows to roll up and down and things of that nature since this car had not been in regular use for nearly 30 years!

It was an incredibly good find. Very few modifications had ever been made to this car. There was a lot of wear and tear, but complete, even the air conditioning system was intact!

As a side note this car was sold new in Corning, California and spent most of its life in San Francisco, California.

A compression test on the engine showed that cylinder number 7 was along for the ride. An appointment was made with Pacific Auto machine, one of our club sponsors in Renton, to rebuild the engine. I just happened to have a 1965 tri-power complete with carburetors in stock that will find its home on the rebuilt engine.

Last week I removed the engine from the car and disassembled it. The problem I saw with number seven was someone had dropped a screw inside of the engine and it had beat the piston up quite bad and put a hole in the top of it. I guess that explains all the oil smoke and the lack of compression!

During my refurbishment of this car, I plan to convert the automatic transmission to a 4-speed and have acquired all the necessary parts. While a full frame off restoration is in the future for this car, it will become now, a driver after the engine is rebuilt and with any luck will attend the Reunion show in July.

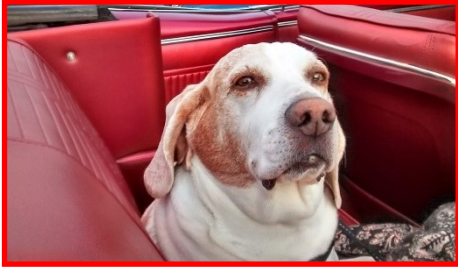


I am pleased with this car. It was purchased at a decent price and any money I put into it will be easily returned. I am extremely excited at a chance to work on this car and exploring all the differences a 65 has compared to what I am used to working on. I know I can look for many fun hours driving my 65 and mashing my foot into the tri-power and slamming the gears!

First shared June 2021 issue.







## PAYTON'S CORNER

THE PLACE FOR GTO AND OTHER  
MUSCLE CAR FUN FACTS



Greetings Legends Members!

As we approach the upcoming TOTC, preparations for the raffle portion of the show are underway. I'm reaching out to our members for potential donations to include in the raffle. In the past this has been either an item or a monetary donation. We have had some great donations in the past that helped raise funds for our club.

We typically have items for a wide range of show attendees so please feel free to be creative! Please email comments or questions to [nwlegendsraffle@gmail.com](mailto:nwlegendsraffle@gmail.com).



2021 Reunion show raffle table



2021 Reunion Show raffle table

## Members Markeplace

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

### 1969 FIREBIRD

350 Pontiac/Turbo 350 Tranny matching numbers

Viper Red paint, Black interior, less than 2000 miles on rebuilt engine

New 17" Tiger Paw Redline tires from Diamondback, Trans Am style hood, Spoiler, 5 spke mag wheels, PS/P disc Brakes. LED sequential taillights. \$45K.

Call Jerry at 206-550-5553





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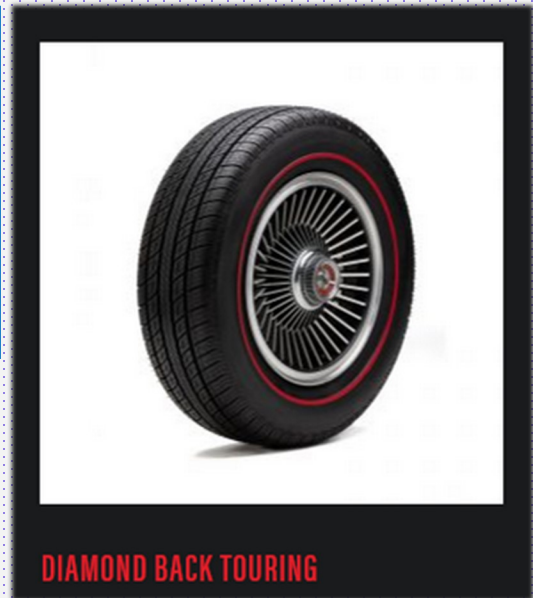


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I have 2 new (still in the plastic wrapper) Uniroyal Tiger Paw tires for sale. They are redlines from Diamond Back Classics. They are 225/55R17's. Nothing wrong with them, I just ordered the wrong size. I paid \$309.00 each for them and I'm asking \$200.00 each.

**Contact Jerry Whitsett at 206-550-5553.**

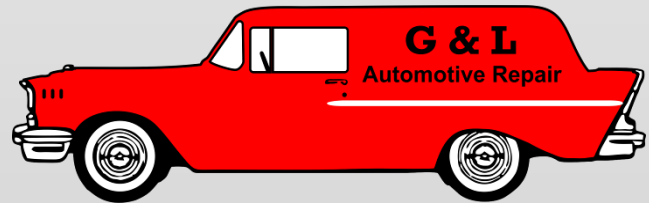




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A special thank you to our sponsors listed below-please support our sponsors as they support our club.



PROFLECTIONS

METAL POLISHING



# LEGENDARY LINES



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## 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](http://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**.

<a href="#">Bunny Hop Rod Run</a>	IngridB Marquart	Bellingham
April 16, 2023 - April 16, 2023	360-380-2733	
<a href="#">Windjammer Car Show</a>	Stephen R Schwalbe	Oak Harbor
April 29, 2023 - April 29, 2023	5093196980	
<a href="#">Windjammer Car Show</a>	Stephen Schwalbe Schwalbe	Oak Harbor
April 29, 2023 - April 29, 2023	5093196980	
<a href="#">Top Secret Customs &amp; Restorations Annual Car Show</a>	Peter Harrett	Arlington (Snohomish)
May 13, 2023 - May 13, 2023	360 651 2540	
<a href="#">Hagerty Cars &amp; Caffeine car show at the Ridge Motorsport Park</a>	Toni Strollo	Sheldon
June 10, 2023 - June 10, 2023	8636988620	
<a href="#">Rakers Annual Car Show</a>	lance rosmaier	Port Townsend
June 17, 2023 - June 17, 2023	360.531.3628	
<a href="#">Vietnam Veterans Chapter 165 12th Annual Car Show</a>	Duane Holliday	Bellingham
July 16, 2023 - July 16, 2023	360-733-5119	
<a href="#">Summer Fun Rod Run</a>	IngridBMarquart	Bellingham
August 25, 2023 - August 27, 2023	360-380-2733	
<a href="#">Wheels on the Waterfront</a>	MICHAEL BEARDSLEY	Everett
August 26, 2023 - August 26, 2023	360-631-0727	
<a href="#">Back in 2023 - Kirkland Police Explorer Benefit Car Show</a>	Patti Ball	Kirkland
September 9, 2023 - September 9, 2023	425-587-3408	
<a href="#">Power in the Park car show</a>	Julie Mabry	Kennewick
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